Madras Information

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14 AUG 1952 MADRAS

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FOR
DAYLONG
FRESHNESS
AND
FRAGRANCE
A MADRAS GOVT PRODUCT
Kerala
SANDALWOOD
SOAP
PURE OIL BASE
KERALA SOAP INSTITUTE
KOZHIKODE

AUG 1952

A Message from the Governor

Raj Bhavan
Guindy

All hearts must rejoice as the fifth anniversary of the attainment of our Freedom, comes round reminding us of the high aspiration with which we embarked on the great adventure and of the great Leader that showed us the way and led us to victory. These years had been years of great trial in which we have had to pass through the ordeal of fire, for the world is a hard place and has its own cruel method of putting everyone to test.

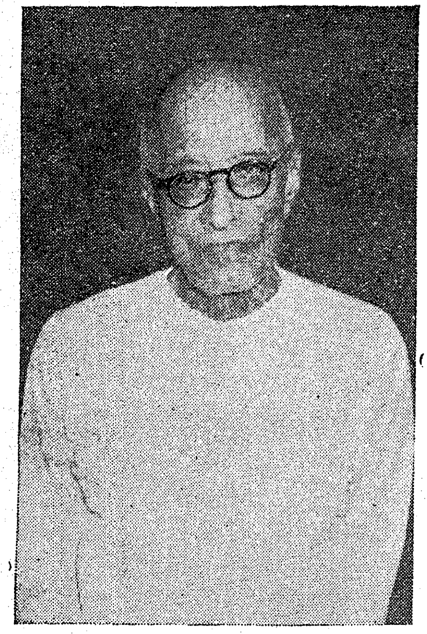
Though five years of persistent effort lie behind us, no one can say how many more years we have to traverse before we reach our destined goal. If there are dark clouds around, there is also the silver lining ; and if there is much that might make us fear, there is also much that must give us hope.

I cannot help feeling that we have now successfully turned the corner and that the main travails are over even though many small aches and pains remain. If we will now make ourselves Swaraj-minded ; if we will really love Freedom for its own sake and feel happy that we are our own masters in our own country ; if we will not think only of ourselves but also of our brothers and sisters as we go about the concerns of our daily lives ; if we will be prepared to do our bit, great or small—whether we be high or we be humble—for the well-being of our society and our country ; then nothing can stand in our way in attaining the other great Freedoms—Freedoms from want and Freedom from fear—that are so essential in order to consummate the political liberty that we have won.

Let us pledge ourselves today to prove increasingly worthy, as the years go by, of our country, our traditions, our Leader and ourselves.

Sri Prakasa

Chief Minister's Message

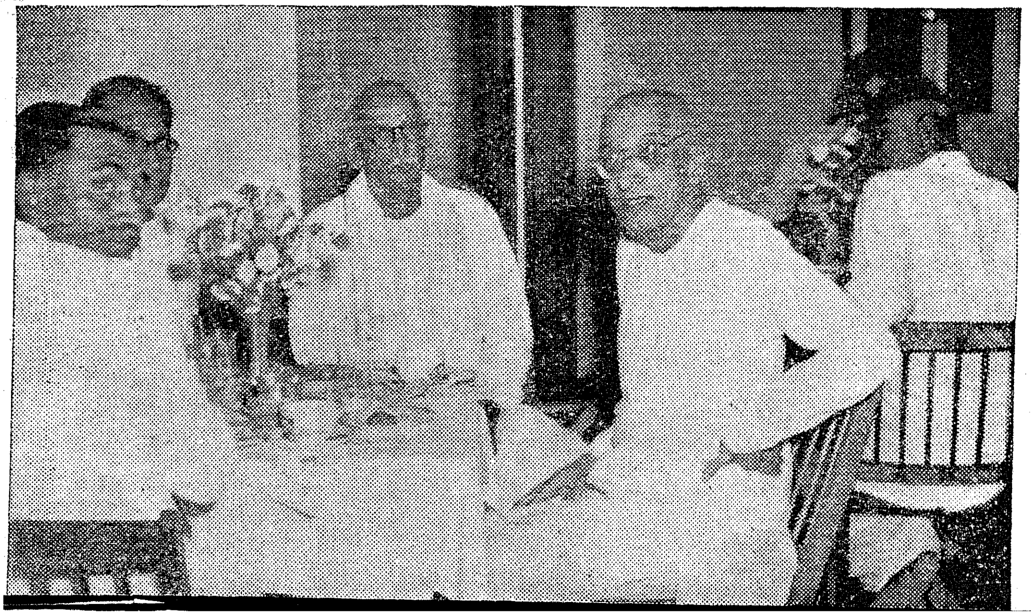


Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

I know that the publications of the Department of Information are "taken for granted" and hardly overtake anti-Government propaganda which has the intrinsic advantage of sensationalism. I know also that "messages" have become far too common to make any impression. The joy of Independence appears almost lost. One wishes we lost Independence for a week, provided we could get it back after the week of pain is over ! It is only when we lose a thing that we realise its value.

C. Rajagopalachari

PARTY TO DR. PATTABHI SITARAMAYYA : Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, Sri N. Ranga Reddi and Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder share a table at the party given to Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya on the eve of his departure to Nagpur to accept office as Governor of Madhya Pradesh State.



14 AUG 1952

Food Position in Madras State

By Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM, Minister for Food.

It was on the 6th of June that the Chief Minister announced the new Food policy of the Government of Madras, decontrolling all the foodgrains including rice. This measure has received the spontaneous approval of almost all sections of the people. There are some who oppose this measure on political grounds. For them I have nothing to say. There are some others, who genuinely doubt the wisdom of this step. This talk is mainly intended for them. Food controls came into existence during war time, consequent upon the stoppage of imports from Burma and the conditions of scarcity created thereby. These controls were intensified year after year, and were extended to other commodities like textiles, iron, steel and other consumer goods. These controls came into existence, so that the poor people may not be hard hit by conditions of scarcity in essential articles. But in actual working, we found that these controls had become irksome and engendered many evils like black-marketing, corruption, harassment, etc.

When the National Government came into existence at Delhi, in deference to the wishes of Mahatma Gandhi the experiment of gradual decontrol was first tried at the end of 1947. Unfortunately the year 1948 turned out to be a particularly bad year on account of adverse seasonal and crop conditions, and the circumstances were not favourable for the success of that experiment, with the result the Government were forced to introduce controls again in 1948. Since then up to the end of 1950, the scheme of rationing was in force in the State. At the end of 1950, it was recogni ed that a policy of progressive decontrol should be adopted, and a major change in the Food policy was effected in 1951.

Procurem nt and Rationing

Intensive procurement was restricted to the surplus delta districts and in the highly deficit districts of Malabar and Nilgiris, and a system of levy procurement was in force in the self-sufficient districts. Compulsory procurement of foodgrains was given up in all other districts. Statutory rationing was confined to the urban areas of deficit districts and informal rationing in rural areas was given up in all districts, except in the highly deficit districts. But, in order to keep prices down, fair price shops were opened in the derationed rural areas. There were many people who predicted disaster when rural rationing was given up, but we found that no great strain was put on the people in obtaining their food requirements, and as a matter of fact, people in rural areas were feeling happy that they were no longer subjected to the rigours of control.

Soon after the present Ministry took over office, they gave their anxious and careful consideration to the Food policy and the desirability of relaxing the controls further.

Growing Dissatisfaction

It was felt that there was a growing volume of discontent and opposition to these controls and the urge for complete decontrol was increasing among all sections of the people, including the consumers. The producers, on their part, were bitterly complaining about the harassment inflicted upon them under the Intensive Procurement Scheme and about the uneconomical prices paid to them. These conditions had created a feeling of complete frustration amongst agriculturists, and there was a consequent lack of enthusiasm for growing more food. It was almost a vicious circle that scarcity conditions necessitated control, and control in its turn produced scarcity by killing the enthusiasm amongst the growers to produce more food. It was necessary to put an end to this state of affairs.

The consumers also were criticising the Government for their failure to supply adequate rations, and also about the bad quality of foodgrains supplied. There were complaints and bitterness all round, and it looked as though nobody wanted these controls. In addition to this, these controls had certainly resulted in numerous forms of evasion of laws, and even honest ryots had been tempted to dishonesty and black market transactions. The consumer also was forced to transgress the law at some point or other in order to get his food requirements.

Decision to Decontrol

It was under these conditions that the Government decided that the time had come to take a bold step and abolish all controls. In taking this decision, we thought the time was quite opportune in view of the favourable stock position of rice and other foodgrains with the Government. As a first step, we removed all controls on the movement by motor or other mechanical transport from one district to another. I shall now briefly explain the main features of the new scheme of decontrol launched upon by this Government.

With a view to regulating movement of rice from surplus areas to deficit areas, the State will be divided into six zones with one or two surplus districts supplying in the free market the needs of a few deficit districts included in each zone. Thus, (1) the surplus district of East Godavari has been clubbed into a zone with the deficit districts of Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam, (2) West Godavari, Krishna and Nellore with Madras City, Chingleput, Chittoor and North Arcot, (3) Guntur with Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool, (4) Tanjore and South Arcot with Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli, (5) South Kanara will form a zone by itself, and (6) the highly deficit districts of Malabar and the Nilgiris will form a separate unit.

Malabar and the Nilgiris

The requirements of Malabar and the Nilgiris Districts and Hosdrug Sub-taluk of South Kanara District will be supplied from imports arranged through the Government of India. Within the zone a free market will be allowed to function. There will be no control as regards price or the quantity of rice to be distributed except through fair price shops. Movement within each zone will be free. Inter-zonal movement by railways or motor vehicles will not be allowed except under permits issued by the Collector

of the District from which transport is proposed. Transport of stocks by head-loads or other non-mechanical conveyances will not be interfered with. Since then it was found there was considerable difficulty in moving food-grains from the districts of West Godavari and Krishna to the other districts in Zone No. 2, so free movement has now been allowed in the districts of Guntur, Nellore, East Godavari and Krishna.

Wheat and Milo.—The distribution and sale of wheat and milo have been completely decontrolled and derationed in the State with immediate effect. There will be no control over the sale price of wheat but as regards milo, since the Government of India are subsidising the sale of milo and incurring considerable losses, it will continue to be sold at specific prices in order to pass on the benefit of subsidy to consumers. There will be no limit to the quantity of wheat and milo that any consumer can buy.

There are ample stocks of rice, wheat and milo under the control of Government at present—about five lakhs tons of rice, 50,000 tons of wheat and 70,000 tons of milo—and they are ready to meet any situation that may develop in any part of the State. Till grains are freely available in the free market, the Government will continue to supply rice through fair price shops as it was done through ration shops before decontrol. This could be done for more than eight months with the present stocks. I can, therefore, assure the people that nobody will be allowed to suffer for want of availability of foodgrains and that there is no room for any apprehension that the poor people may be hard hit by this scheme of decontrol. Fears have been expressed by some that black-marketeers will try to corner stocks and increase the prices of foodgrains. But the Government are fully armed with powers to deal with any situation that might arise due to the activities of these unsocial elements and Government will not hesitate to use all their powers to meet this menace firmly if it should arise at any time.

Though hardly a fortnight has elapsed since the inception of the scheme, the Government have received very encouraging reports from all parts of the State about its results. An all round fall in the open market prices of rice has been reported from all centres. Rice is said to be available in the open market in some centres at prices on a level with controlled prices, and no scarcity in the availability of foodgrains has been reported from anywhere. These reports of the first effects of the scheme are very encouraging and the Government are confident that the prices will settle down soon and stabilise round about the level of controlled prices.

Now, the producers have been given freedom to sell to any person and at any price they want, the consumers to purchase from any person up to any quantity they want, and the merchants to purchase at any price and without any licensing restrictions. But every one of them has to play his part well in order to make the scheme a complete success. For the success of the scheme, it is necessary that people should observe voluntarily the controls which were imposed on them by compulsion.

Now that controls are removed, people should not go about wasting food by having feasts without any restrictions. We can't afford to waste food even to the slightest extent. It is also necessary that we should restrict the use of rice to the minimum possible level. Wheat is available in large quantities but of late, the off-take of wheat has been going down. The people should get accustomed to use wheat as food. For all these, the willing co-operation of the people is absolutely necessary. The success of the present scheme will open before us bright vistas of new life free from obnoxious controls and restrictions of any kind and it is up to everyone of us to make this vision real. *(By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras)*

Grow More Food Activities in May 1952

Part A

Weather Conditions

The month was hot and dry during the first fortnight but a sudden depression developed in the Bay of Bengal by the 20th of the month and caused widespread and heavy rains in the districts of Chingleput, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Anantapur, Nellore, Guntur, Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari. The rainfall recorded was about 6 inches in East Godavari, 10 inches in parts of Cuddapah, 3·84 in Anantapur and 14 inches in parts of Nellore and Guntur Districts. The rains prevented serious water famine in Rayalaseema and parts of Nellore District and filled up many rainfed tanks giving opportunity to raise short-term paddy and millet crops.

Part B

I. *Works Schemes*

Repairs to Old Tanks.—Sixteen works were sanctioned during the month at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,76,625. The extra acreage covered by the works is 302 and the additional production anticipated is 169 tons.

Construction of Irrigation Tubewells.—During the month under review seven noteworthy borings were completed by the Industries Department in South Arcot. The number of wells so far completed under the scheme comes to 99, out of which six were failures.

Land Improvement Works.—An area of 2,811 acres was reclaimed by the departmental tractors and bulldozers.

II. *Supply Schemes*

A total of 1,199 tons of ammonium sulphate, 353 tons of phosphatic fertilisers, 867 tons of improved paddy seeds, 11 tons of millet seeds and 30 tons of green manure seeds were distributed by the Agricultural Department.

Compost.—Preparation of rural compost was in progress in almost all the districts, and a quantity of 5,042 tons of compost was prepared and a quantity of 6,358 tons was applied to the fields.

Pest Control.—The army worm of paddy was reported on an extensive scale from Malabar, Tirunelveli and South Kanara Districts, and it was effectively controlled in 905 acres by dusting 10 per cent BHC. The Lesser Paddy grasshopper pest was controlled over an area of 534 acres in Coimbatore, South Arcot and Salem Districts by dusting 10 per cent BHC. Damage from field rats continued to be reported from all districts and poison baiting with zinc phosphide was conducted over an area of 873 acres.

AUG 1952

Increasing Agricultural Production

By Sri N. MURUGESA MUDALIAR, Deputy Secretary, Department of Food and Agriculture

Talking about agricultural production, let me begin by referring to the season. To town dwellers, the weather may not be of much consequence, but to farmers it is a material factor which influences their operations all the time. The cycle of drought which has affected us for the past five years, appears to have definitely left us, and with average luck, the next year or two should be fairly favourable for crop production. Ordinarily one good year is followed by two years of drought; but this time we had five years, a sufficiently long period for even the drought. It is fairly definite from meteorological observations in the past that no drought will last more than five years. We can therefore start our work of increasing production this year with humble prayer and faith in Providence. Although the south-west monsoon is still rather weak, it has relieved distress in the arid regions of the Rayalaseema and the thirsty areas on the Carnatic Coast. If past records are guides, the monsoons following a drought are usually very plentiful. This year our rivers and lakes and tanks might get full and sustain our crops.

The next most favourable feature is the recent fall of the general price level which came about miraculously, almost as a God-send. If the price trend was to the contrary, its effect on producers and consumers after a continuous period of suffering for nearly five years would have been disastrous. The general prices have appreciably fallen while the prices of farm produce are very fair. This means that the production costs and the living costs of the farmer will not go up and the price that he will get for his produce will have no tendency to go down. The wholesale price index number for foodgrains in November 1951 was 380 and in May 1952 it was 407. The index for commercial crops was 635 in November 1951 and 449 in May 1952. This trend in prices has also given a warning against undue extension of acreage under commercial crops. The tumbling down of prices of oilseeds and other commercial crops has torn the illusion that anyone could build his prosperity purely on cash crops. A further development which emphasised this warning was the unprecedented slump in sugar. Many people who diverted their paddy lands to sugarcane, not as a periodical rotation but as a means of making more profit, have burnt their fingers.

Cash Crops Versus Food Crops

Commercial crops which provide cash for financing of farm operations are necessary for the economic prosperity of the agriculturists; but not at the expense of food crops. It is perfectly possible to obtain more outturn from commercial crops by using improved seeds and application of manure instead of by diversion of acreage. In the face of a food shortage the substitution of commercial crops in the place of food crops would be unwise and detrimental. It would be like expanding a shop in one's premises to encroach on the kitchen. Any inbalance in crop production will lead to grave consequences. It will lead to increased living costs and prevent the consumer from buying industrial products. The best policy therefore will be to produce both food and commercial crops and if need be at a reasonable sacrifice of the commercial crops in order that there will be no stalemate resulting in agriculture not being able to buy the products of industry.

In recent years there has been a decrease in the total cropped area due to continuous droughts. What is worse, the acreage under food crops is more or less stationary while the acreage under non-food crops has shown a tendency to increase. This tendency for food acreage to sag is an alarming factor considering the increase in population. Where there are more mouths to feed more hands must be put to work, or at any rate, more work must be done and not only the total cropped area but also the area under food should be adequately increased. The inhibiting factors hitherto have been the drought and the control of prices of foodgrains and the control over distribution.

Incentives for Farmers

The recent act of Government in decontrolling foodgrains has removed all obstacles and opened the possibility of increasing the production of foodgrains. The restriction on the price and intensive procurement have been regarded as the greatest dis-incentives for farmers, both big and small, to increase the production of paddy in spite of all the Government aids given to grow more. Whether there was justification or not for this, there was certainly a psychological feeling which was detrimental to increasing food production. The controlled prices might have been fair enough but the abolition of free marketing and the constant irritation provided by the procurement agencies in checking up production and the quota to be made available for procurement have undoubtedly killed the zest to go all out and produce the largest size of food crops, and a disregard for quality and grading equally contributed to retard incentive to get the best quality produce and obtain the best price for it. Production thus become a muddy stream, stagnant and slow moving.

The question was repeatedly asked why should a farmer grow more paddy considering the small margin of profits when sugar, cotton, oilseeds or tobacco were practically not controlled and brought more profit. The argument may be quite unreasonable but nevertheless understandable. Fortunately quite a small percentage of intelligent farmers have however realised that food farming was paying even under controlled conditions and that the only limitation is the lack of water. With decontrol food farming is bound to become more popular. It requires less investment and profits will be satisfactory. Further, food prices are more stable than the prices of commerical crops which fall more precipitously than food crops in a falling market.

Preparation of Parity Index

It is therefore necessary to realise that the maximisation of food production is the more natural thing and that its sacrifice on other grounds would be short-sighted. An attempt has been made to assess the economic condition of the farmer by the preparation of a parity index with two components viz., (1) the index of the price, received by the farmer for the commodities marketed by him and

(2) an index of the prices paid by him which is a component of the .ndex of the cost of living of the farmer and the index of the cost of cultivation. The index fell by two points from February to March in the case of foodgrains and by 22 points in the case of commerical crops in the same period. This will illustrate how the food prices will keep up its head in a falling market. There is a very well informed school of thought which holds that we are definitely on the road to a slump and that the artificial high prices of cash crops will no more stage a comeback.

In such a prospect, the increase of food production without necessarily cutting down commercial crop production will be the most sensible thing. Against this background of facts, the present decontrol must be regarded by farmers as the best opportunity for increasing production. The fact that decontrol has been timed before the cultivation season, is another advantage for the producers. They can see the road clear, they can see the barbed wire of price control and procurement pushed aside. They can go ahead with confidence and zest and plan their operations. Indeed from all reports, such a feeling is manifest throughout the State. Everybody concerned should determine not to let time slip.

Planning for Future Seasons

Every farmer whether big or small should decide for himself how much increased production he could plan for in the next cultivation season. Such planning will be in his own interest which is as sacred as the interest of the community. We used to lament that there is widespread under-employment of the agricultural producers. The reason is not far to seek. It is not as if the farmers are not hard working and keen and intelligent. Nearly 80 per cent of our holdings are less than five acres in extent. The bulk of the producers are living on the margin and are unable to invest in the improvement of land. It would be interesting if a sample survey was made to find out if in all cases the entire extent is farmed in one way or another.

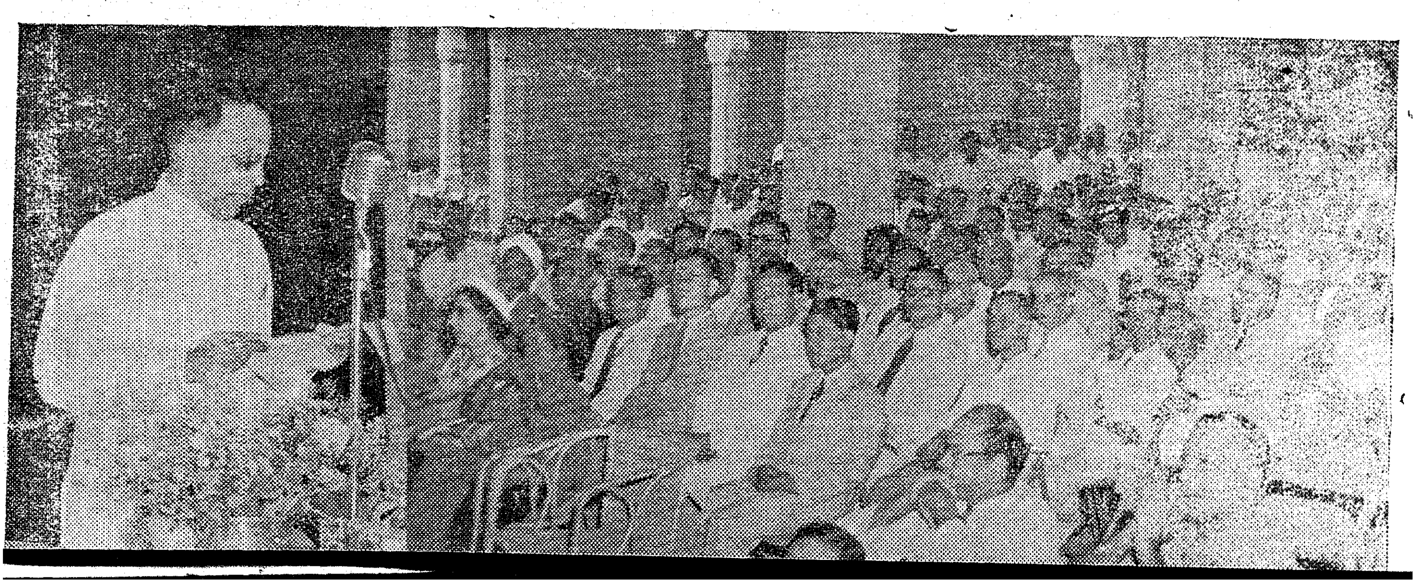
Hitherto rural credit has been mainly employed to liquidate the debt which was the aftermath of the last slump in prices. Now all available credit should be used for improving land and increasing production. The agricultural and land improvement loans for which increasing provisions are made by the Government and the credit afforded by the Co-operatives should be valuable aids to production at the present time.

Value of Extension Service

The major factor for securing increase in production is the application on a wide scale of the scientific knowledge relating to agriculture. The strengthening of the Government Extension Service will assist the farmers in this respect. It is needless to recount the various other aids provided by Government under the Grow More Food Programme with which both the public and the farmers are now familiar. The aids for reclamation of land by tractors, supply of machinery for power lift irrigation, facilities for underground water exploitation, the renovation of tanks, the starting of innumerable minor irrigation works, large-scale distribution of chemical fertilizers, the encouragement of compost production, the supply of improved seeds, the popularization of contour bunding and soil conservation measures, the reorientation of research work in order to be of direct use to the farmers, and the starting of village agricultural associations would be useful to increase production. Encouraged by the good results of the application of improved methods of agriculture, many farmers are now confident of making investments on improvements in their own farms on their own account without looking forward to Government help. This is a good sign of the possibilities of increasing production.

The new type of agriculture for securing increased production is the one that will give employment throughout the year. Wherever possible irrigated crops, garden and dry crops, development of topes and improvement of pastures are all to be undertaken together. Mixed farming which will improve land as well as livestock will

TRAINING IN SOIL FERTILITY: Under the auspices of the International Rice Commission of the Food and Agricultural Organization, a post-graduate training course in soil fertility, with special reference to rice culture, was inaugurated by Sri Nityanand Kanungo, M.P., on 15th July 1952, at the Agricultural College and Research Institute Farms, Coimbatore. Here Sri Nityanand Kanungo is seen delivering his speech.



increase farm incomes which could be used for expanding production.

Role of Community Projects

The Community Projects that are now being undertaken are aimed at developing the material and human resources of the selected areas. Six projects which comprise about 200 villages each are being started and the work done in these 1,200 villagers will demonstrate the possibility of locating production by integrated effort and application of sufficient capital and scientific methods.

A combination of circumstances render the present movement opportune to make an energetic effort to increase agricultural production. The giving up of food control which was a war-time legacy, a promising turn in the weather cycle, the downward trend in general price level which assures lower cost of production, a free market for farm produce which must secure favourable prices, the various Government aids which have popularised the technological possibilities of increasing yields of crops, the expansion and strengthening up of the Extension Service, the availability of credit facilities for greater investment in agriculture, the Community Projects which would be an object lesson of getting the best out of the land, are all favourable factors in the present situation.

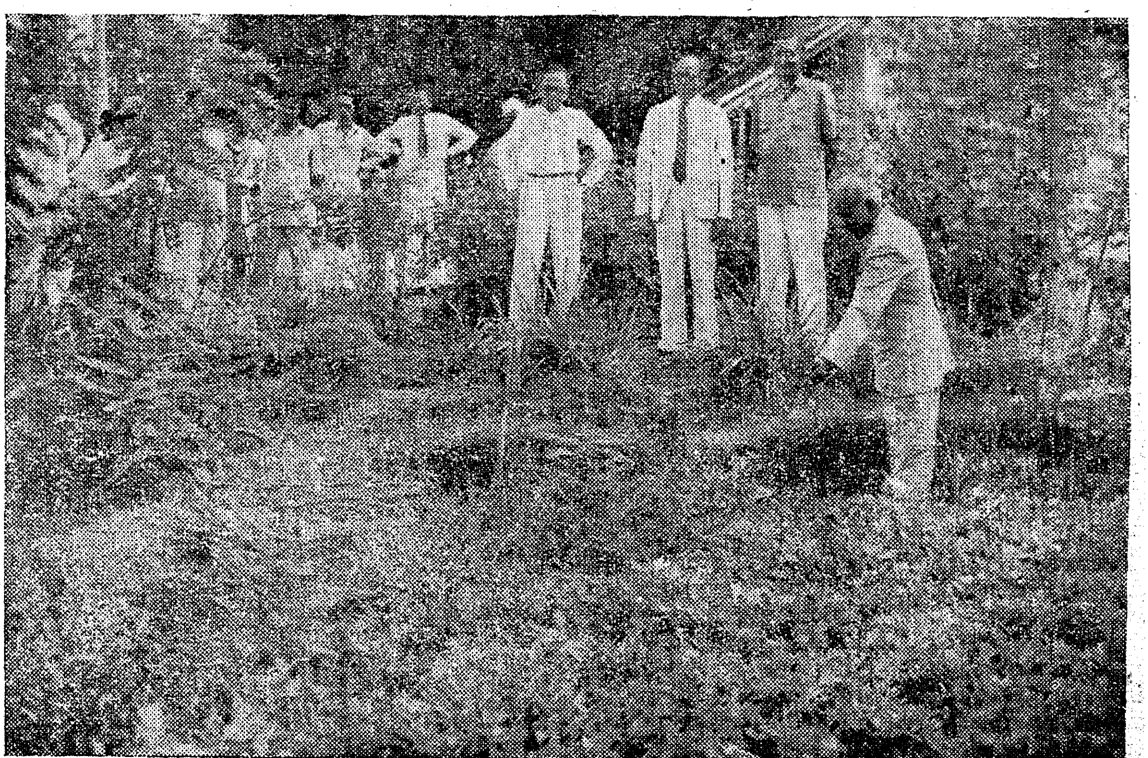
Deficit agricultural production means shortages, lower national income, under-employment, less favourable balance of trade and gradual economic improvement. The deficit should be measured with reference to the maximum potential to which production could be raised by the efficient management of land, water and live-stock. The co-efficient of efficiency will be the percentage of the actual achievement of the potential. Rightly or wrongly the intelligentsia influences the popular mood. The need of the hour is for all concerned to stress on the present possibilities of increasing production in agriculture so that the humblest in the land may have more rice in their pots, a little more cash in their pockets and ample work to do.

(By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras)

Grant for State Women's Food Council

The Government have sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 322-8-0 per mensem for a period of one year from December 1951 to the Madras State Women's Food Council.

VALUE OF GREEN MANURE: Sri Nityanand Kanungo visited the Research Institute Farms. Picture shows the Paddy Specialist explaining to Sri Kanungo the good results obtained by using green manure.



Notes For Farmers

Intensive Cultivation Scheme

As the Intensive Manuring Scheme in Madras State was a great success during 1951–52, the Government of Madras have ordered its continuance for 1952–53 also according to which takkavi loans will be granted at the rate of Rs. 25 per acre up to a maximum of Rs. 200 per ryot to enable him to purchase chemical fertilisers for his paddy crops. A sum of Rs. 82·01 lakhs has been sanctioned for granting loans to the ryots for the purchase of chemical fertilisers in 1952–53. The loans will be recovered in full immediately after the harvest of the long-term crops with February-March 1953 kist.

The following areas have been classified as Intensive Cultivation areas for the year 1952–53.

1. The entire districts of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot, Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Tirunelveli, South Kanara, Malabar and Chingleput.

2. Hadagalli, Hospet, Siruguppa and Royadrug taluks of Bellary district.

Cumbum, Kurnool, Siruvel, Nandyal, Nandikotkur and Koilkuntla taluks of Kurnool district.

Cuddapah, Proddatur and Jammalamadugu taluks of Cuddapah district.

Gobichettipalayam, Bhavani, Erode, Dharapuram, Palladam and Coimbatore taluks of Coimbatore district.

Namakkal taluk of Salem district.

3. (i) Puttur, Chittoor, Tiruttani, Kalahasti and Chandragiri taluks of Chittoor district; and

(ii) Ramanathapuram, Paramakudi and Tiruvadanai Taluks of Ramanathapuram district which are commanded by the Well Subsidy Scheme.

(iii) The whole of North Arcot district excluding Chengum and Tirupattur taluks.

The Government have sanctioned special staff for the implementation of the scheme in the districts of East Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot, Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Tirunelveli with effect from the date of appointment up to 30th November 1952 or till the necessity therefor ceases, whichever is earlier. In other districts the scheme should be implemented by the existing Agricultural staff. Arrangements have been made for moving sufficient stocks of fertilisers to the districts concerned well in advance of the season. The Agricultural Department will expedite the supply of fertilisers to co-operative societies and tender firms in advance so that the fertilisers may be made available to the ryots even in interior parts of the districts. Collectors have been authorized to make necessary allotments to meet the expenditure towards the distribution of loans.

The following special facilities have been provided under the scheme: (1) Takkavi loans will be liberally granted to the needy agriculturists. An additional staff consisting of one Special District Agricultural Officer and several Agricultural Demonstrators, Maistries and Fieldmen will operate in each of the ten deltaic districts so that the disbursement of loans might be effected speedily and the ryots instructed when necessary. (2) Advice will be offered by the officers of the Agricultural Department on the mode of application of these fertilisers. (3) Fertilisers will be taken within easy reach of the agriculturists. (4) Loans will be granted on the personal security of the ryots concerned.

Intensive Manuring Scheme

The Government have sanctioned the continuance of the Intensive Manuring Scheme for the year 1952–53 and have also allotted a sum of Rs. 82·01 lakhs for granting loans to the ryots for the purchase of chemical fertilisers. After consideration whether the loans should be granted free of interest or not the Government have decided that interest at 4½ per cent per annum should be charged on the loans granted to the ryots under the Intensive Manuring Scheme.

The Director of Agriculture and the Collectors have been requested to issue instructions that interest at the rate of 4½ per cent per annum is charged and recovered from the loanees after the harvest of the long-term crop along with the March 1953 kist.

Ryots are therefore advised to make full use of the special facilities granted to them and thus make a substantial contribution towards achieving self-sufficiency in food-grains.

For details on the quantity of different fertilisers to be used, all ryots are advised to contact the nearest Taluk Agricultural Demonstrator or the District Agricultural Officer of the District.

Subsidy for Rural Compost to End

In view of the refusal of the Government of India to grant subsidy for the manufacture of rural compost during 1952–53, the Government of Madras have decided to discontinue the Rural Compost Scheme. The Director of Agriculture has been informed that the subsidy of Re. 1 per ton of rural compost manufactured by the ryots should be withdrawn with immediate effect.

Tractors for Non-Agricultural Uses

The Government have directed that the rate of hire charges for the supply of any tractor for non-agricultural purposes should be 100 per cent over the existing rates.

The tractors will be supplied for non-agricultural purposes during the off-season, when the soil conditions are unsuitable for ploughing work.

State Food Advisory Committee Abolished

The State Food Advisory Committee, reconstituted in the Order dated September 12, 1949, has been abolished, in view of the Government's revised food policy.

AUG 1952

Crops Reports

Blackgram

The area sown with blackgram in the Madras State in 1951–52 is estimated at 281,000 acres. Compared with the estimated area of 283,100 acres of the previous year and the average area of 296,000 acres during the previous five years, the present estimate shows a decrease of 0·7 per cent and 5·1 per cent respectively. The decrease in area this year is due mainly to want of rains at the time of sowing.

The crop is grown mainly in the districts of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, South Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Tanjore, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Malabar and South Kanara. An increase in area is estimated in the districts of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Guntur, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot, Tiruchirappalli and Malabar, and a decrease in the other regions of the State except in Bellary, Cuddapah and South Kanara where the area was the same as that of last year.

The yield per acre is expected to be below the normal in all the regions of the State due mainly to want of adequate rains during the growth of the crop. The seasonal factor for the State as a whole works out to 81 per cent of the normal as against 77 per cent estimated for the previous year. On this basis the total yield works out to 24,500 tons. Compared with the yield of 23,700 tons estimated for the previous year and the average yield of 26,500 tons during the previous five years, the present estimate shows an increase of 3·4 per cent, and a decrease of 7·2 per cent respectively.

Potatoes

The potato crop is grown chiefly in the Nilgiris District and to a small extent in Salem and Madurai Districts of the Madras State. This report relates to the period up to the end of December 1951.

The area sown under the winter crop in 1951–52 is estimated at 3,650 acres. Compared with the area of 4,060 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, this is a decrease of 10·1 per cent.

The yield is expected to be normal in Salem and Madurai Districts. In the Nilgiris District the harvesting of the crop has concluded and the yield is reported to be below the normal, due to frost especially in Ootacamund Taluk.

Greengram

The area sown with greengram in the Madras State up to 25th December 1951 is estimated at 467,800 acres. Compared with the estimated area of 458,100 acres for the corresponding period of last year, it is an increase by 2·1 per cent. Compared with the average area of 466,400 acres for the previous five years, it is an increase of 0·3 per cent. The increase in area this year is attributed to timely rains at the time of sowing.

The crop is mainly grown in the districts of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Bellary, Nellore and Tanjore. A decrease in area is estimated in the districts of Srikakulam, West Godavari, Guntur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chingleput, North Arcot and Coimbatore and an increase in the other regions of the State except in Chittoor, Madurai and Ramanathapuram where the area was the same as that of the last year.

The crop is reported to have been affected by delayed and inadequate rains in the districts of Kurnool, Anantapur, Chingleput, Coimbatore and Tanjore. The yield is expected to be below the normal in all the districts of the State. The seasonal factor for the State as a whole works out to 87 per cent of the normal as against 85 per cent for the previous year. The increase in the seasonal factor this year is largely due to better season for greengram in parts of the Circars Districts. On this basis, the total yield works out to 34,100 tons in terms of cleaned grain. Compared with the yield of 33,100 tons estimated for the previous year, the present estimate is an increase by 3·0 per cent. Compared with the average yield of 32,300 tons for the previous five years, it is an increase by 5·6 per cent.

Tobacco

The area sown with tobacco up to 25th December 1951 is estimated at 336,100 acres. Compared with the area of 351,600 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year it shows a decrease of 4·4 per cent. The decrease in area this year is largely due to inadequate rains at the time of sowing.

An increase in area is estimated in the districts of Visakhapatnam, Bellary, Coimbatore, Tanjore and Madurai and a decrease in area in the other regions of the State except in Salem, Tiruchirappalli, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli Districts, where the area was the same as that of last year. The variation is marked in the district of Guntur (— 29,500 acres).

The crop is reported to have been affected by drought in the districts of Krishna, Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah where the yield is expected to be below the normal. The condition of the crop in the other regions of the State is reported to be generally satisfactory.

Horsegram

The area sown with horsegram in the Madras State in 1951–52 is estimated at 1,356,400 acres. Compared with the area of 1,343,300 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year and the average area of 1,398,400 acres for the previous five years, the present estimate shows an increase of 1·0 per cent and a decrease of 3·0 per cent respectively. The slight increase in area this year is due to timely rains at the time of sowing.

An increase in area is estimated in the districts of Visakhapatnam, West Godavari, Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, Nellore, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Tirunelveli and South Kanara and a decrease in the other districts of the State except in the districts of Chingleput, Tanjore and Malabar, where the area was the same as that of last year.

The crop is reported to have been affected by inadequate rains in the districts of Kurnool, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chittoor, North Arcot and Coimbatore. The yield per acre is estimated to be below the normal in all

the districts of the State. The seasonal factor for the State as a whole works out to 72 per cent of the normal as against 76 per cent estimated for the previous year. On this basis the yield works out to 87,500 tons. Compared with the estimated yield of 90,600 tons for the corresponding period of the previous year, and the average yield of 96,800 tons for the previous five years, the present estimate shows a decrease of 3·4 per cent and 9·6 per cent respectively.

Ginger

The area under ginger in 1951–52 in the districts of Visakhapatnam, Nellore, Madurai, Malabar, South Kanara and the Nilgiris is estimated at 13,100 acres. Compared with the area of 11,500 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it shows an increase of 13·9 per cent. Compared with the average area of 10,900 acres for the previous four years ending with 1949–50 the present estimate reveals an increase of 20·2 per cent. The increase in area this year is due mainly to incentive afforded by the high price for ginger.

An increase in area is estimated in the districts of Malabar, South Kanara and the Nilgiris. The estimated area is the same as that for last year in the districts of Visakhapatnam, Nellore and Madurai.

The yield per acre is estimated to be normal in the districts of Nellore and South Kanara and below the normal in the districts of Visakhapatnam, Madurai, Malabar and the Nilgiris. The total yield is estimated at 4,410 tons of dry ginger. Compared with the estimated yield of 3,700 tons of dry ginger for the corresponding period of last year, it shows an increase of 19·2 per cent. Compared with the average yield of 3,590 tons of dry ginger for the previous four years ending with 1949–50 the present estimate reveals an increase of 22·8 per cent.

Cholam (Jowar)

The area sown with cholam in 1951–52 in the Madras State is estimated at 4,529,100 acres. Compared with the final estimate of 4,532,100 acres for the previous year, the present estimate is a decrease of 0·1 per cent. However, it shows an increase of 0·1 per cent when compared with the average area for the four years ended 1950–51, viz., 4,525,000 acres.

Cholam is not grown in the districts of South Kanara and the Nilgiris and is an insignificant crop in Malabar and Tanjore Districts. Compared with the final area for 1950-51 the present estimate reveals a decrease in Visakhapatnam, West Godavari, Guntur, Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chittoor and Coimbatore Districts and an increase in the other districts of the State, except Tanjore and Malabar where the area is expected to be the same as that of last year. The decrease in area is marked in the districts of Guntur (— 16,600 acres) Nellore (— 9,100 acres).

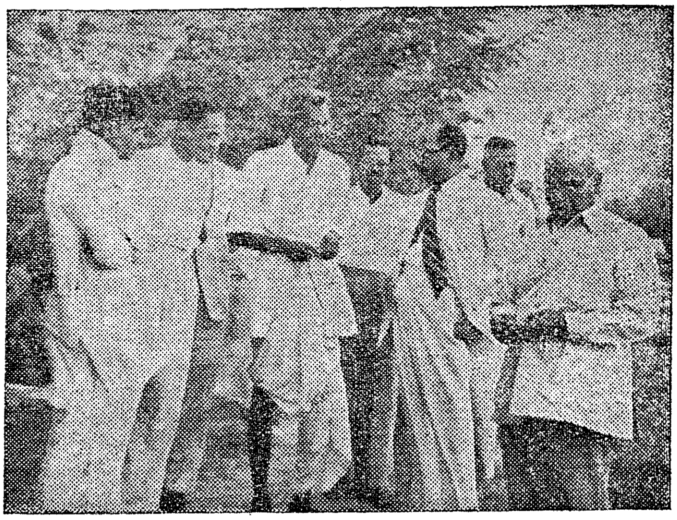
The main crop has been harvested in most districts of the State. The yield per acre of both the Kharif and Rabi crops is estimated to be below the normal in all the districts of the State, especially in Anantapur, Cuddapah and Chittoor, due mainly to inadequate rainfall in the north-east monsoon period.

The seasonal factor for the State as a whole works out to 72 per cent for the Kharif crop and 70 per cent for the Rabi crop as against 73 per cent and 72 per cent respectively for the previous year. The total yield for the State as a whole is estimated at 937,100 tons of unhusked grain or 796,600 tons in terms of cleaned grain. This represents a decrease of 1·5 per cent when compared with the yield of 951,400 tons of unhusked grain and 808,700 tons in terms of cleaned grain estimated for the previous year and a decrease of 9·6 per cent when compared with the yield of 1,036,300 tons of unhusked grain and 880,800 tons in terms of cleaned grain in an average year.

The average wholesale price of cholam per imperial maund of 82–2/7 lbs. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) as reported from some of the important market centres on 29th March 1952 was Rs. 8–6–0 at Tiruchirappalli, Rs. 8–15–0 at Cuddapah, Rs. 9–1–0 at Rajahmundry, Rs. 10–14–0 at Bellary and Rs. 13–2–0 at Adoni.

Compared with the prices reported for the corresponding period of the previous year, the price has remained stationary at Rajahmundry and it showed a decrease of 18·3 per cent at Cuddapah. Cholam was reported to be not available at the other centres during the corresponding period of the previous year.

Minister for Agriculture at the Coimbatore Paddy Breeding Station



AT THE STATION: Dr. R. Naganna Goud, Minister for Agriculture, at the Paddy Breeding Station, Coimbatore.

Dr. R. Naganna Goud, Minister for Agriculture, Madras, during his visit to Coimbatore inspected the Paddy Breeding Station, Coimbatore, and evinced keen interest in the work that is being carried on there. The Navarai paddy was at its best. He was shown the breeding material that was on the field which included crosses for evolution of disease resistant strains, drought resistant strains, short duration 'dormant' strains, etc. He was impressed by the *Sesbania Speciosa* planted close along the edges of fields to get sufficient green manure for the next crop. The *Gliricida* planted along the main channel bunds and one of the double bunds of the fields also attracted his attention. The Minister for Agriculture was glad to note that groundnut T.M.V. 2 and cotton crops, P. 216-F (short duration) and MU. 1, were being grown successfully in the rice fallows with a few irrigations.

Co-operative Activities

Reviewing the administration of the Co-operative Department during 1950-51, the Government have observed that while recording the all-round progress made by the Co-operative Department during the year under notice, the Government are particularly glad to note its contribution towards increasing production of food and cottage industrial goods. The Government add that it is noteworthy that weavers co-operatives contributed nearly one-third of the handloom cloth manufactured in the State. Other notable items of progress are in the work of resettlement of ex-servicemen, rehabilitation of ex-tappers, equitable distribution of controlled commodities and relief of the housing shortage.

The other salient features of the Government's review are :

Co-operative Societies.—On 30th June 1951 there were 24,205 societies with 33·41 lakhs of members and Rs. 85·32 crores of working capital, as against 22,784 co-operative societies with 31·22 lakhs of members and working capital of Rs. 71·11 crores at the end of the previous year. The Government continued to use the co-operatives for the procurement and distribution of foodgrains, distribution of chemical fertilisers, and fabrication and distribution of agricultural implements. The Government also entrusted during the year the distribution of iron and steel to co-operative societies. The Government have also ordered the reallotment of mill cloth quota to co-operatives, which had been stopped in January 1950. Co-operatives of different types continued to play an increasing role in the production of food, textiles and cottage industrial goods.

Agricultural Societies.—The two-fold scheme in respect of agricultural societies, viz., one for increasing their number so as to bring within their fold 50 per cent of villages and 30 per cent of rural population and the other for reorganising them into multipurpose societies, was continued during the year with full vigour. The loans issued by agricultural credit societies during the year amounted to Rs. 7,65·29 lakhs, as against Rs. 6,44·00 lakhs during the previous year. Loans issued for productive purposes amounted to Rs 7,33·45 lakhs during the year, whereas the corresponding amount during the previous year was Rs. 6,13·57 lakhs.

Food Production.—Co-operatives again played a notable part in the production of food crops during the year. Twenty-two irrigation societies provided facilities for irrigating 4,894 acres; 2,026 societies undertook distribution of chemical fertilisers and they distributed 44,421 tons of ammonium sulphate and 10,153 tons of superphosphate to agriculturists. In addition to food production, co-operatives made a remarkable contribution to the production of textiles. The weavers co-operatives in the State numbering 1,017 with 1·76 lakhs of looms accounted for about one-third of the handloom cloth produced in the State. Their sales exceeded Rs. 1,000 lakhs.

Housing Societies.—Co-operative housing societies recorded another year of progress. The number of housing societies of all types increased from 280 to 293 during the year; 678 houses were completed by these societies during the year and 1,842 houses were in various stages of construction.

GREEN MANURE : Sesbania Speciosa, *a green manure crop grown along the edges of paddy field bunds.*

COTTON : *P 216 F (short duration cotton) grown after the harvest of the paddy crop.*

GROUNDNUT : *TMV 2 (groundnut) grown successfully in the rice fallows.*

Vanamahotsava in Madras State

By Dr. R. NAGANNA GOUD, Minister for Agriculture

The subject of my talk tonight is 'Vanamahotsava in Madras State'. I shall briefly touch upon the importance of trees, how our forefathers valued, planted and preserved them, how an era of neglect followed with several attendant evils and the present compelling necessity to repair those evils.

Trees influence the local climate and help to bring about rain to supply water for drinking and irrigation. They prevent erosion of the soil, and preserve its fertility and productivity. They give us fruits, timber, fuel, fodder and green manure. They also lend beauty to the landscape.

Trees confer on man not only material benefits, but also provide the necessary environment for his spiritual advancement. It is under the shades of the forests that Indian metaphysics and the spirit of enquiry into the mystery of existence were born. The great Puranas and Upanishads were written in the sylvan setting of the forests. Many scenes in our two great epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabaratha, were laid in the forest. The great Vijayanagar Empire was founded in the heart of the forest, while the warrior King Shivaji had his apprenticeship in the art of war in mountain fastnesses and forest glades. Our tradition is thus intimately linked with forests.

Life and Breath of Man

Our ancestors having realised that trees were the life and breath of man, preserved and planted them systematically and scientifically. They even inculcated a religious fervour for rearing trees. They celebrated forest festivals and adored trees. They dedicated some species of trees as sacred to the gods; for instance, the Arasu and Vilva trees are held in veneration. History records that the Great Ashoka and other ancient kings planted banyan trees on the road sides.

But unfortunately an era of neglect followed with many evils in its train. By the circumstances created by wars, many forests have disappeared. Fires also are responsible for ruining some of our forests. The rapid denudation of tree growth from hill sides and cultivated plains had led to devastating floods, erosion of soil, progressive diminution of rainfall and general deterioration of climatic conditions. The stage has already been reached when the cultivator is compelled to divert all his valuable farm-yard manure from his field to his hearth, resulting in ever-increasing impoverishment of the soil.

Zeal for Planting Trees

Today, we are up to arrest the pillage that has been going on for years. To prevent this destruction of vegetable cover of the soil, we should arouse consciousness among our people regarding the value of trees and instil in them a zeal for planting trees and protecting them. This tree planting movement was started above five years back. Advantage was taken of the enthusiasm aroused among the people in connection with the celebration of the Day of Independence and the Tree Planting Week was celebrated in this State from 15th August during 1948 and 1949, but experience has revealed that tree planting done in the middle of August suffers from a grave handicap, that is, the loss of half the growing season which commences in July, when the south-west monsoon sets

From the talk broadcast by Dr. R. Naganna Goud, Minister for Agriculture, on July 19, 1952 at 9-15 p.m. from A.I.R., Madras.

VANAMAHOTSAVA AWARD TO SOUTH KANARA: Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, presents the State Silver Shield to the District of South Kanara, the most successful district in the Vanamahotsava Campaign of 1950-51. Sri A. R. Rajaratnam, Collector of South Kanara, is seen here receiving the shield from the Governor.

in. It has therefore been decided by the Government of India to observe the first week of July as the National Tree Planting Week and that the Week should be celebrated as an annual national festival for planting of trees and should be called Vanamahotsava. We have accordingly been celebrating Vanamahotsava in this State in the first week of July from 1950. Only a couple of weeks back we celebrated the third Vanamahotsava throughout this State.

It is very difficult to fix a week for Vanamahotsava which will suit all parts of the country from the climatic point of view, but for the purpose of intensive propaganda and uniformity, the first week of July has been chosen; but the planting of trees can go on till October for statistical purposes and for the various prizes awarded.

Where to Plant Trees

After having mentioned why we should plant trees and when we should plant them; I shall now indicate where we should plant the trees. At present 17·1 per cent of the total area of the State is covered by forests and another 1·9 per cent of the area is covered by miscellaneous trees and groves. It is considered that the economic well-being of the State cannot be maintained at a safe and proper balance, unless the proportion of the area under forests is increased to at least 25 per cent. The Forest Department is intensifying its work for the regeneration of the denuded forests and to expand the forest area. The villagers should co-operate with the Forest Department in putting down forests fires when they occur. The public at large, the several Government Departments, Municipalities, District Boards, Panchayat Boards, the Universities, colleges and schools and other private institutions should interest themselves in planting trees in their local areas.

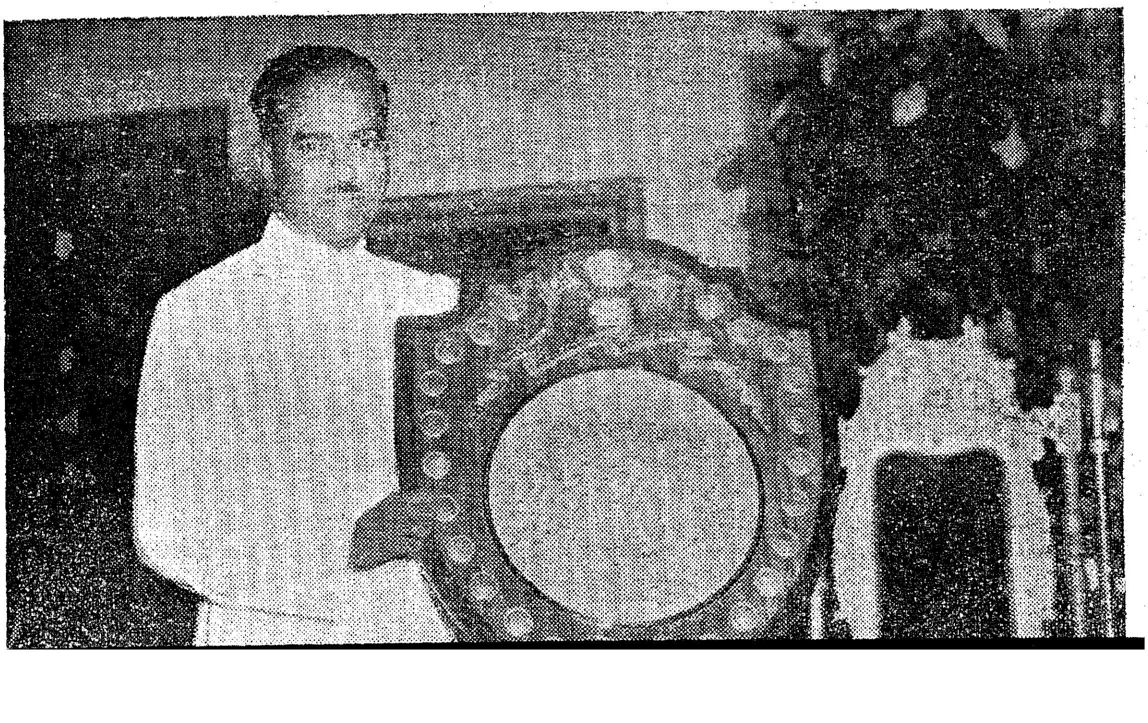
There is large scope for planting trees in compounds of Government buildings, Court Houses, rest houses, camping grounds, compounds of private bungalows, public gardens, burial grounds and other open spaces; canal and channel banks, road sides and railway lands; school and college compounds; village waste lands and the fields of cultivators. Under a provision in the Board's Standing Orders ryots can plant trees on poramboke lands, which are not available for assignment under darkhast rules. Government lands which have been lying waste for ten years can be granted under the Cowle system for planting private or public thopes.

What Trees to Plant

I shall now mention what trees should be planted. In the choice of trees, we must give first priority to fruit-bearing trees like the mango and the jack. The next place should be given to fodder trees like Karuvellam or Nalla Thumma and Illupai or Ippaeh and green manure trees like Pungai. We must also plant quick growing fuel trees like the babool and casuarina. The village fuel forests should be developed and the use of farmyard manure as fuel should be prevented. The Highways Department should plant avenue trees like the neem, the banyan, the tamarind and the Flame of the Forest for shade and ornamental purposes. The Agricultural Department has published pamphlets giving details of the several species of fruit, fodder, green manure, fuel and avenue trees that can be usefully planted and how and where to plant them.

The Government are giving all necessary facilities for planting trees. Each Collector is given a sum of Rs. 1,000 each year for meeting the expenditure connected with the celebration of the Vanamahotsava in his district. Recently Government have sanctioned about Rs. 20,000 towards the purchase of about 40,000 coconut seedlings for planting on the sides of roads and on the main bunds in wet land areas in the Rayalaseema Districts. The Chief Engineer of Highways and the Presidents of District Boards in those districts have also been asked to undertake coconut planting wherever possible. The Director of Agriculture and the Chief Conservator of Forests have been asked to arrange for the supply of seeds and seedlings for sowing or planting throughout the State, particularly during the

THE SHIELD: The Collector of South Kanara, Sri A. R. Rajaratnam, with the Vanamahotsava Award Shield. The replica of a banyan tree is embossed in silver on the Shield.



Vanamahotsava. Last year the Agricultural Department distributed over 40 lakhs of seedlings and 6,300 lb. of seeds and over 13,000 fruit trees. The village officers with their talaiyaries and vettis who are in constant touch with the villagers for ascertaining the crop grown on their fields, have been instructed to ascertain their requirements of plants and send weekly reports to the Revenue Inspector and the Tahsildar, who will take steps to supply the plants.

The maistries and fieldmen of the Agricultural Department who are constantly visiting the villages for distribution of seeds, fertilisers, etc., have also been asked to ascertain from the villagers their requirements of plants and send the list to the Agricultural Demonstrators, to get the plants from them and supply them to the villagers. They will also advice them what plants they should plant and how to plant them. The maistries and fieldmen of the Agricultural Department and the village officers of the Revenue Department have also been asked to ascertain from the villagers their requirements of seeds and plants for the next Vanamahotsava and pass on the information through the Agricultural Demonstrator or the Tahsildar concerned to the Director of Agriculture or the Collector or the Chief Conservator of Forests who will take necessary steps for getting the seeds and plants and supplying them to the different centres well in advance.

The countrywide response generated during the celebration of the Vanamahotsava festival has demonstrated an inherent love for trees in the people. To direct the overwhelming enthusiasm aroused throughout the country along permanently fruitful channels and to stimulate an abiding interest in our forests, the Government of India have formed an All-India Forest Lovers Association (Vanapremi Sangh). The Association will forge a common bond between all lovers of trees and woods, private owners of forests and professional foresters. It will ensure an identity of outlook and instil an *esprit de corps* among those engaged in the raising of trees and their upkeep.

The President of India is the patron of the Association. The affairs of the Association will be controlled by a Central Board with the Minister for Agriculture and Food, Government of India, as its ex-officio President. At the instance of the Government of India, the question of setting up a State Board of the Association for this State is under consideration. We have already set up a State Standing Committee for Tree-Planting consisting of officials and non-officials and with the Commissioner of Food Production as its Chairman. An executive committee has also been formed to assist the State Standing Committee. The Food Production Committees in the districts are functioning as District Standing Committees for tree planting. Sub-Committees have also been formed in the districts to assist the District Standing Committees. These Committees plan and direct the tree planting campaign in this State.

Presentation of Shields

To encourage the planting of trees, the Government of India have sanctioned a scheme for the presentation of several shields on all India and State basis.

I shall now refer to the targets fixed and the results achieved so far in our State. For the ten-year period 1951–1960 we have fixed a target of 650 lakhs trees for this State. In 1950 against a target of 40 lakhs trees, 82 lakhs trees were planted, of which 41 lakhs survived. In 1951 against a target of 50 lakhs trees, about 71 lakhs trees were planted. In 1950, the South Kanara District planted about 17·4 lakhs trees of which 11·6 lakhs trees survived. It has won the State Silver Shield and the All-India Rajendra Shield, being the best district in the Indian Republic. The target fixed for this year is 55 lakhs trees and I appeal to all my listeners to see that this target is over-reached.

The most important part of the tree-planting campaign is the difficult task of after-care of the trees planted. It is necessary that the seedlings planted should be watered till they reach maturity. It is also very necessary to see that the plants are protected from the ravages of cattle by providing suitable tree guards made of thorns, scrap iron or old iron materials or barbed wire.

I once again appeal to all the citizens of this State to plant and protect more trees and bring plenty and prosperity to this State. *Jai Hind!*

(*By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.*)

Grant of Lands for Manufacture of Salt: Procedure Orders Modified

The Government have modified an Order, dated October 14, 1950, which prescribed the procedure in regard to grant to the applicants of State lands suitable for the manufacture of salt.

The assignment of lands will, in future, be made only on condition that the lands are liable to resumption by Government at any time on repayment of land value and the value of the created assets on the land. The lease shall be subject to the following conditions:—

(*a*) the lease should ordinarily be for a period of 25 years, with an option for renewal for another 25 years, with the proviso that Government would reserve to themselves the right of revising the rate of lease amount at the end of 25 years; (*b*) the grant of the lease and of its renewal will both be subject to the condition that no compensation (except that for the created assets on the land on a fair valuation) will be paid for the premature termination of the lease, in the event of the Government adopting a policy of nationalization.

Progress of Water-supply Schemes

The infiltration-cum-suction well at the Kalyani Swarnamukhi confluence source for the Tirupati Water-supply Scheme was sunk to the required level, pumping plant installed and trial pumping started recently. This will augment the water-supply to Tirupati through the already existing gravitation main.

In the Chittoor Water-supply Scheme, pumping mains have been laid up to Kalvagunta on Chandragiri Road, temporary pumping plant erected and water-supply made available at the road side. Water from this point has to be conveyed by municipal lorries for supply to the public.

The Government have also sanctioned the investigation of the pilot scheme for the Kancheepuram Municipality with the Palar river as source.

14 AUG 1952

Public Health and Municipal Councils

By Sri A. B. SHETTY, Minister for Health

The Chairmen of our municipalities deserve to be congratulated for doing such organised work and seeking to promote the interests of local administration. The municipal services affect the lives of the inhabitants of towns in many ways and perhaps to a more intimate degree than even the work of the Central and State Legislatures. Good government at the top depends to a great extent on good administration in local bodies. During the past few decades there has been considerable movement of population from rural areas to towns. Our towns are growing in size and population. The conditions created by the World War have accelerated the drift to towns. In the ten years between 1941 and 1951 the population in municipal areas has increased by 42·8 per cent as against an increase of 14·4 per cent in the whole State.

Twelve per cent of our people are now living in towns and cities. To a constantly increasing extent we are becoming a nation of town dwellers. There is now a general recognition that a town or a city is an important factor in the associated lives of its citizens and the ways in which its common affairs are administered have therefore become questions of growing interest and importance. The physical form of a town or a city reflects in many ways the material and cultural level of its citizens. Towns are the seats of administration. They are the centres of education, trade and industry. Most of the leadership are drawn from the men of education and wealth who make their abode there. Towns, therefore, play a very important part in the national life of a country.

Our towns are badly built. They have grown in a haphazard way without any planning. The housing conditions are most unsatisfactory. Slums and overcrowding make the situation worse, particularly in the industrial areas. There is lack of protected water-supply and drainage facilities are hardly available. The roads in most cases are narrow and dusty. The major cause for the poor physical development and chronic ill-health of our people is, undoubtedly, faulty nutrition. The rapid increase in our population is widening the gap between the available quantity of food supply and the number of people to be fed.

Progress in England

We can draw many lessons and derive much inspiration from the history of municipal progress in England during the last hundred years. A century ago their industrial towns were unplanned, dirty and unfit for human habitation. There was frightful overcrowding and epidemic diseases were rampant. A century of city government has effected a revolution in sanitation, health, education and the amenities of life. Practically all their important cities are having today excellent roads, good drainage, adequate supply of pure water and proper systems of public cleansing. Steady and sustained progress has been made in the provision of good and cheap houses. The public health measures taken there have practically eliminated the common epidemic diseases, reduced death rates and increased the average expectation of life.

The ill-health and premature death so common among our people offers a striking contrast to the high standards of health and length of life enjoyed by the people in many of the western countries. The low level of health in our country may be traced mainly to unhealthy conditions of living, improper nutrition, inadequacy of health services and lack of education. Besides improving environmental conditions, the cities of England have developed the personal health services to a great extent during the last few decades. These personal health services may be said to embrace the seven ages of man from the cradle to the grave. There is first the Maternity and Child Welfare service; next comes the School Medical service; then there are the protective services which look to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases including tuberculosis and venereal diseases, and the maintenance of a pure food supply.

Finally, they have instituted schemes of insurance against sickness, unemployment, old age, etc. As a result of these health services people are enabled to live to a good old age. Throughout the western world a new phenomenon has appeared—the rapidly growing percentage of older people in the total population. The problem there is how to keep older men and women healthy and fit and employed in useful work which will give them financial security. The problem here is how to check the great torrent of unwanted babies, protect those that are born and provide for them education and employment.

Water-supply and Drainage

The health services that our municipalities provide are neither so extensive nor so efficient as those of western cities. We are far behind them even in regard to the provision of basic sanitary services, such as protected water-supply and drainage which are of vital importance to public health. Only 52 out of 98 municipal towns are at present having protected water-supplies. Some of these water-supply schemes are in need of additions and improvements. The position in regard to drainage schemes is even more unsatisfactory, since only three of our cities, namely, Madras, Madurai and Ooty, have underground sewerage systems and 13 other municipal towns are having partial drainage schemes. Forty-one municipal and other urban water-supply schemes and 11 drainage schemes were under execution in 1951–52 and Rs. 64 lakhs were given as grant and loan during this period. With the reorganisation of the Sanitary Engineering Branch in 1949–50 it has become possible to show better progress in the execution of these works.

It has been said in the welcome address that the Government do not now pursue a uniform policy in respect of different municipal councils regarding the aid they give for water-supply and drainage schemes. The old policy of giving half-grant and half-loan has been revised for good reasons. According to the present policy which is in force since 1949, Government aid varies according to the financial

From the speech delivered at the Third Annual Conference of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen on 20th July 1952, Madras.

Campaign Against Corruption

During the quarter ending 31st March 1952, 37 persons were found guilty and suitably punished. The punishments awarded against seven persons were slight, and the following thirty persons were awarded severe punishments :—

One Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. (Compulsorily retired) ; One Tahsildar (Dismissed) ; One Inspector of Police (Compulsorily retired) ; One Supervisor (Highways Department) (Dismissed) ; One Health Inspector (Compulsorily retired) ; One Assistant Public Prosecutor (Dismissed) ; One Deputy Tahsildar (Dismissed) ; One Loans Deputy Tahsildar (Dismissed); One Sub-Inspector of Police (Dismissed) ; One Probationary Sub-Inspector of Police (Dismissed) ; One Excise Sub-Inspector (Compulsorily retired) ; One Special Revenue Inspector for Wells (Removed from Service) ; One Lower Division Clerk (Dismissed) ; Two Field Surveyors (Dismissed) ; One Head Constable (Dismissed) ; Seven Police Constables (Dismissed) ; One Police Constable (Removed from service) ; Three Prohibition Constables (Removed from service) ; One Attender (Removed from service) ; One Temporary Prohibition Guard (Dismissed) ; One Peon (Discharged from service).

The total number of cases pending at the end of March 1952 was 241.

capacity of the municipality. Municipalities are to contribute to the scheme up to the limt of their taxable capacity and Government give the balance of the amount required for it. If bigger municipalities are thus found to be in a position to finance the schemes from their own funds, they become ineligible for Government grants. But such municipalities are allowed to execute their schemes in advance without waiting for their turn in the priority list.

This new policy will release the pressure by richer municipalities on State funds and make it easier for the poorer municipalities to get the Government grants and loans they need. Water-supply and drainage schemes are now taken up in accordance with the priority list whatever may be the financial resources of the municipality in question, and financial assistance is given to the extent necessary in each case. The period of repayment of the loans sanctioned to the municipalities has been extended up to 40 years instead of 20 or 30 years as it was formerly. It is but just and proper that municipalities which can find enough finance for these schemes from local taxation should not seek Government aid which means a burden on the general taxpayer.

Plans for the Future

The water-supply and drainage schemes which have to be taken up hereafter in municipal towns may cost at least Rs. 50 crores. We shall have to speed up the present procedure and secure more funds if we are to finish this programme within a reasonable period of time. The installation of a water-supply and drainage scheme in any town will effect a definite improvement in public health and reduce the expenditure now incurred on health work in that area.

The maintenance of the water-supply system should be entrusted to a central organisation of the Sanitary Engineering Department so that it may be efficiently run. A reasonable dividend can be earned on the capital invested on the water-supply system and a reserve fund built up for future repairs and expansions. The suggestion that has been made to tap private capital or to get the funds of concerns like the insurance companies to finance these schemes is worth pursuing, since the resources of Government are limited.

Safe Food Supply

Adulteration of foods, especially milk, ghee and oils, is becoming a more common practice. Fifty per cent of the samples sent for analysis are found adulterated. Proposals have been made to open regional laboratories in different centres of the State so that more food samples can be got analysed. It is also necessary to make legislative provision for dealing more severely with offenders. India's Health Minister, Srimathi Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, announced in a radio broadcast recently that a drastic Food Adulteration Bill would be brought into Parliament during the next session. This will be a welcome measure.

The municipal authorities have to take more stringent action against the sale of food exposed to dust and flies. The recently published Hotel Sanitation Committee Report has drawn attention to the grossly insanitary conditions under which food and drink are prepared and sold in catering establishments, such as hotels, tea shops, aerated water and ice-cream stalls. Stricter sanitary control will have to be exercised over such establishments so as to ensure proper sterilization of utensils and better personal hygiene in "Food Handlers." The Committee enjoins upon municipal councils to build 'Model Restaurants' so that private enterprise may copy them.

Town-Planning

The question of town-planning is now recognized to be a matter of great and growing importance. The object of town-planning is to transform the physical environment in order to create suitable conditions for healthful living. In the United Kingdom planning control is not a matter of mere local concern in a town or city. It has been extended to the countryside and made a matter of supreme national concern. Though the Town-Planning Act was passed so long long ago as 1920 and is now in force in all our municipal towns, we have made but little progress in planning work so far. In most cases it is confined to one or two schemes for certain extension areas of the town. Under Section 8 of the Town-Planning Act every town has to prepare and submit to Government a General Town-Planning Scheme or what is called a "Master Plan" covering its whole area and also the lands round about it. No municipality has as yet prepared such a Master Plan. A few municipalities like Madurai, Coimbatore and Mangalore have done the preliminary work required for this purpose.

A correct physical survey map of the town is quite essential for any planning work. Municipal councils which have not yet had a full town survey made and councils where the town surveys are old and out of date should take steps to have up-to-date surveys made. The paucity of qualified persons for employment as town-planning

staff is one of the main impediments to the progress of this work. If degree or licenciate courses in town-planning and allied subjects are instituted in our Engineering colleges, it will meet the difficulty experienced at present. The bigger municipalities can depute some suitable candidate for foreign training in town-planning work. Town-planning schemes are often put off on the ground of want of finance. A scheme is normally expected to be self-supporting, unless it involves costly improvement of already built up areas. The development of an area as planned out under a scheme is carried out by the owners of lands themselves. The municipal council has to provide facilities for such development and it can recover its portion of the cost of the scheme by levy of betterment.

A well conceived and executed town-planning scheme, would even help to augment the municipal revenues. Seventy municipalities are maintaining the Town-planning Fund Account as required under the Act. But very few of them have a reasonably good balance account. The amendment of the Town-planning Act is under examination at present with a view to give effect to such of the recommendations of the Town-planning Committee as have been accepted by Government.

The Housing Problem

The task of town improvement by slum clearance, re-planning of insanitary and congested areas and the provision of hygienic dwellings in healthy surroundings, particularly for the low income groups, should be regarded as a problem of major importance which municipal authorities have to tackle. The conditions under which the poorer people live in our towns and cities in single room tenements and in back-to-back houses packed too closely together are unwholesome and demoralising in the extreme. Housing shortage has become more acute on account of the growth of population in towns due to war conditions. It has resulted in over-crowding even in the quarters of the middle-class people. The improvement of housing conditions should be given a high priority among the schemes for the welfare of the people. It will require vast sums of money.

Government, local authorities, co-operative organisations, Railway and industrial concerns have each to do their share in this work. There are about 296 co-operative housing societies in urban areas. Loans to the extent of Rs. 71·61 lakhs were disbursed to them in 1951–52. The provision of housing for scavengers and sweepers is an urgent need which many of our municipalities have yet to meet.

Parks and Playgrounds

The need for providing recreation areas and facilities by means of parks, playgrounds and open spaces as a part of the City Plan is now fully recognised. Nearly all our towns and cities lack in adequate provision of such recreation space. These parks and playgrounds should be evenly distributed in the different parts of the town. Where the individual dwellings have no open spaces about them and there is over-crowding, there is need for a greater recreation space per capita.

Municipal authorities will do well to acquire large stretches of land in advance outside their boundaries so that they may control and plan the future development of suburban areas. The Madras Town-planning Enquiry Committee has rightly stressed the need for educating the general public on the subject of town-planning and its great importance for the welfare of the community. The successful enforcement of planning regulations and restrictions depends on the support and co-operation of the people. It is, therefore, necessary that we should conduct publicity campaigns and arouse interest in matters relating to town-planning.

Army's Role in Relieving Drought Distress

The public are no doubt aware that the help of the Army was sought to relieve water scarcity in the Rayalaseema Districts which have suffered from severe drought conditions for the last five years. With the improvement in the seasonal conditions there, the army units have been requisitioned to deepen wells in drought-affected areas in Ramanathapuram, Salem, Coimbatore, Palni Taluk of Madurai District and Tirumayam Taluk of Tiruchirappalli District. The units were requisitioned not with a view to concentrate work solely in their hands but only to help the civilian authorities in cases where beds of wells are so rocky as to render it very difficult for civil staff to take up the work of blasting.

The work of the Army is dependent on the equipment available to them and hence the help they can give is necessarily restricted. The Army is obviously unnecessary where the type of terrain presents no difficulty for deepening. It must also be noted that the Army does not drill borewells. Their method of operation is to drill holes in the rock bed of dry wells either by hand or by using air compressors, insert safe charges of explosives and blast the rock without damaging the well walls.

In these circumstances, it is highly necessary that the resources and energy of the Army units should not be frittered away by being given work which can be tackled by the civilian department responsible, whether by the Collectors or by the Local Boards concerned. These must continue to deepen wells in their respective jurisdictions with their own resources of material, manpower and money. It is only where wells to be deepened present technical difficulties beyond their own resources that the Army should be required to help.

Collectors in the affected districts have been asked to select wells according to this criterion. Collectors of districts where distress has been recognised, i.e., where land revenue remissions have been granted by Government, have already been empowered to deepen drinking water wells at the expense of the Government in cases where this is the only method by which drinking water could be supplied. This authorization is for the calendar year 1952.

Health of the People

The main objective of the Government of Madras in the field of Health is to introduce measures which would help the prevention of attacks of diseases and ravages of epidemics and to provide within easy reach of every section of the population medical relief facilities.

A realistic approach to the problem has been made by taking up first as a priority item, the training of medical and public health personnel. Progress made in this direction can be assessed from the fact that while only 252 students were reading in the Medical colleges in this State during the year 1945–46 the present number (for the year 1951–52) has risen to 330. The Pharmacology Department of the Madras Medical College has been reorganised. Besides training medical personnel in modern medicine, steps are also taken to enlarge and improve the training facilities available at the College and School of Indigenous Medicine. A new five-year course (G.C.I.M.) to train persons to the degree standard is now being held in the College of Indigenous Medicine. It was decided to have one standard of education in Indigenous Medicine, viz., G.C.I.M. and consequently the L.I.M. course was abolished with effect from the academic year 1952-53. To equip select medical men of outstanding ability for filling teaching, research and other important posts in the State, the Government have deputed some of them for advanced training abroad. More than 30 medical officers have so far been deputed by this Government for specialising in certain specified subjects. A few officers have been deputed abroad under W.H.O. and Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships and under the Commonwealth Technical Co-operation Scheme.

Post-graduate courses are provided in the different Medical colleges of this State for training candidates for M.D., M.S. and B.S.Sc. degree, as well as for Diplomas in Gynaecology, Obstetrics, Ophthalmology, Oto-Rhino-Laryngology, Tuberculosis, Clinical Science, etc. Another important measure of the Government is the upgrading of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Anatomy and Venereal Diseases departments of the Medical colleges as All-India Centre of Post-Graduate Teaching and Research.

Training of Nurses

There is no gainsaying the fact that the number of trained nurses available in the hospitals is thoroughly inadequate. There are at present 12 training centres for nurses in the State (eight complete training centres and four partial training centres) and 750 candidates are undergoing training in them. A School of Nursing is attached to the Government General Hospital, Madras, with the idea of imparting training to the newly selected candidates. Post-graduate courses for nurses including a Nursing Tutors' Course and Hospital Administration Course are conducted in the General Hospital, Madras. AB.Sc. degree course in Nursing has been started in the Christian College for Women, Vellore. In order to provide nurses with a better type of basic training and to enable them to acquire first-hand knowledge about nursing in foreign countries, five nurses were sent to the United Kingdom. They have been admitted to some of the best English hospitals where they will have opportunities of widening their knowledge about their profession.

Three of these nurses have completed their training and have returned to India.

Thus, it is hoped, in course of time Madras State will have not only sufficient number of trained medical men and health personnel, but also will have a reservoir of trained teachers and research workers in different branches of Medicines.

Primary Centres

Of all the projects taken up for expanding medical relief the one relating to the establishment of Primary Centres, is the most important one. Taking the village as the primary unit, it is proposed to set up so many dispensaries that no village is more than five miles away from its most convenient centre. In densely inhabited areas the population factor will be considered along with the distance factor, and a dispensary is to be provided for every ten to twelve thousand people.

Every Primary Centre will have six beds, four maternity and emergency and two isolation. Owing to financial stringency much leway has not been made in this matter. Government decided to open 150 Primary Centres and 25 Taluk Centres in the first quinquennium, the opening of these centres being spread over the first five-year period at the rate of 30 Primary Centres and five Taluk Group Centres in a year. The opening of the first batch of 30 Primary Centres and five Taluk Centres was taken up in 1948–49 and in the subsequent years the proposalhad to be deferred in view of acute financial stringency. Actually, however, only 24 Primary Centres are working.

Hospitals

All these Primary Centres are to be grouped and supervised by the appropriate Taluk Headquarters' Hospital. It is proposed to enlarge these hospitals so that they contain 50 beds in normal areas and 100 beds in thickly populated areas. Originally it was planned to reconstruct 40 Taluk Headquarters Hospitals during the first five years, but owing to the need for economy the programme could not be adhered to.

The administration of Taluk Headquarters Hospitals will be supported by a well-equipped District Headquarters Hospital in each district. Today all districts have each an Headquarters Hospital. The District Headquarters Hospitals are being reorganised by providing them with a first-class laboratory X-ray department, special departments for Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Venereal Diseases and Eye diseases. Facilities for training nurses, maternity assistants and compounders are proposed to be provided in them. It is also proposed to employ adequate staff, that is each District Hospital will have a Surgical Specialist, a Specialist in Medicine, a Gynaecologist, a Radiologist and Specialist in Electro-Therapeutics, an Ophthalmic Surgeon, an Ear-Nose-Throat Specialist, a Venereal and Skin Specialist, a Dental Surgeon and an efficient nursing staff.

Combating Epidemics

In combating epidemics a new departure has been made by the Government by initiating preventive measures, including disinfection of sources of infection and preventive

inoculations, well in advance of an actual outbreak of the epidemic, anticipated on the basis of seasonal conditions and past experience of epidemics in the area. There is every reason to hope that this new policy of dealing with epidemics will prove effective.

The destructive disease that deprive the State of hundreds and thousands of lives are Malaria, Cholera, Plague, Small-pox, T.B., Leprosy and Cancer.

Malaria is pre-eminently a rural disease and tends to be worst in the rush seasons of agriculture. The disease takes heavy toll of life and naturally Government took up the question of fighting this disease and arresting it on a war-footing. A well-equipped Central Malaria Bureau was set up in 1946 with a laboratory and museum under an Assistant Director of Public Health. Four segional units, each unit controlling six districts, with necessary entomological and field staff started functioning soon after. Malaria surveys were conducted and schemes for malaria control was taken up as and when the surveys were complete. Much progress was recorded during the last four years. Thirty-seven anti-malarial schemes including District Board and Municipal Schemes, partly financed by Government, have been inaugurated in the various endemic malarial tracts of the State. With the colloboration of the World Health Organization, anti-malarial work is being carried on successfully in Ernad and Walluvanad Taluks of Malabar. The various anti-malarial schemes now under implementation cover an area of 9,800 square miles of the State and directly benefit a population of 19 lakhs.

Relentless Battle

Cholera is another disease against which another campaign is being carried on. Cholera usually occurs in epidemic form of varying magnitude and has been sweeping the countryside periodically. It is true that protected water-supply and adequate environmental sanitation will root out and liquidate this disease. But unfortunately due to the immensity of the problem and the financial implication it might involve, taking up of large scale programmes for immediate implementation is not possible. However, all precautions are taken and an epidemic reserve of Health Inspectors are kept and moved to places wherever there are indications of an impending epidemic . outbreak. Effective preventive measures are taken at all fairs and festivals at which large numbers of pilgrims gather.

Other destructive diseases against which a relentless battle is being fought, are plague and smallpox and the dread bowel complaints of enterics and dysentery. Most of these scourges and especially the enteric fever and dysentery, are mainly due to bad sanitation and lack of protected water-supply. Hence the problem of protected water-supply if tackled successfully would root out many of these diseases. The Government on their part were not slow to realise the importance of water-supply. Since the work of providing schemes for the entire population of the State would exceed Rs. 100 crores, a workable twenty-year plan for urban areas and ten-year plan for rural areas were formulated and a beginning has been made for municipal areas with a five-year programme which would cost the Government Rs. 3·52 crores. As a result of the steps taken by Government 53 out of 93 municipalities have now protected water-supply schemes.

Mother and Child

Another problem in the field of public health tackled on a very well-organised footing is the maternal and infant mortality. In fact, Madras can boast of being the only State in India which has a Public Health Act having provisions for maternity and child care. There are over 512 Maternity and Child Health Centres spread over the State. The rural areas which need more help of this type are not left out and nearly half the number of such Health Centres is situated in rural areas.

The Maternity and Child Health Centres are very popular and thousands of mother flock in for care and supervision of pre-natal and intra-natal care. The young infants and mothers are taken care of during the puerperal period.

The treatment of cancer is at present concentrated in the institutions in the City of Madras. This means many people have to travel long distances. By the time they come to the City for treatment, in majority of cases it becomes too late a stage for cure. The Government have hence decided upon the decentralization of the facilities available for cancer treatment and also the provision at all the important hospitals in the State of diagnostic clinics.

The essential features of the scheme for the control of T.B. are : B.C.G. vaccination, opening of T.B. clinics and institutional treatment. B.C.G vaccination introduces a certain number of attenuated strains of bovine tubercular bacilli into the layers of the skin so that it induces a certain amount of resistance to tubercule bacilli without producing any appreciable evidence of disease in the individual. There are 38 T.B. hospitals, clinics and sanatoria dealing with the disease and 171,342 persons are attended to yearly.

Leprosy Work

Greater efforts are being taken towards the control and treatment of leprosy in the State. The Government have taken over the management of the Lady Willingdon Leprosy Sanatorium, Tirumani, the Silver Jubilee Children's Clinic, Saidapet, and the Ettapur Children's Leprosy Sanatorium and have assumed the entire responsibility for the development of leprosy work in the State, leaving only the propaganda and publicity part of the work to the Madras Branch of the Hindu Kusht Nivaran Sangh.

Underlying all these aspects of public health is the problem of nutrition. Far too large a proportion of India's citizens are ill nourished and worse still is the case of the people in rice-eating areas like Madras. More than 30 per cent of the diseases from which the people of Madras suffer may be directly or indirectly attributed to malnutrition. In spite of financial stringency, the Government have bestowed some attention to this problem also. The Nutrition Bureau of this State has been reorganised. A promising beginning has been made and three regional units have been set up for concentrated propaganda and demonstration and supply of deficient items of food in their respective regions. Clinical studies of diseases of nutritional origin have also been undertaken.

A scheme has been sanctioned for arranging a training course in scientific nutrition, for the health staff and lay persons like wardens of hostels.

Broadcasts For Schools

By Dr. M. V. KRISHNA RAO, Minister for Education

Today* All-India Radio begin their educational broadcasts for the thirteenth year in succession. The broadcasts when they were first started, consisted of just five broadcasts a week, one each in Tamil and Telugu and the rest in English. Today there are in all fourteen broadcasts a week in each, of Tamil and Telugu, graded for elementary, middle and high schools and one broadcast a week in English. (*July 7, 1952.)

In July 1949, that is ten years after the starting of these broadcasts, a common plan was evolved for the entire region and the school broadcasts of Madras, Tiruchirappalli and Vijayawada were integrated. Today there are over 500 schools which include these broadcasts in their curriculum. Government have recognised as a craft training the organization by Secondary School teachers of listening classes.

If these broadcasts are to serve the purpose for which they are intended and educational institutions are to derive the maximum benefit from them, it will require close collaboration between the staff of listening schools and All-India Radio.

The schedules are prepared in consultation with leading educationists and follow the syllabus prescribed for the various standards. I invite all teachers in schools, who have included these broadcasts in their curriculum, to write to the Station Director, All-India Radio, after every broadcast, giving suggestions for improvement. The Government are doing their part by distributing radio sets at concessional prices and maintaining them at their expense. The Government have also issued instructions to publishers of text-books, to publish with suitable modifications, the texts of talks broadcast on various subjects in a book-form and so provide suitable material.

It is something of which we may justly be proud, in that school broadcasts are best organised in our State and the number of schools listening into these broadcasts is the greatest. I suggest to school managements to take initiative by securing from their own resources receivers, with a view to provide adequate listening facilities to their students and to help in reaching the target early, of one set for every school. Government on their part will render all possible help in this regard. It is our hope that the number of schools listening to these broadcasts will pass the 1,000 mark by the end of this academic year.

A.I.R., as I already pointed out, can only broadcast talks by experts and with the help of pupils themselves, present subjects in an interesting manner, say the story of Shivaji, as a play, but it can never replace the teacher. It is the teacher who is in direct contact with his pupils and it is his part which is perhaps the most important. To get the most out of these broadcasts, the teacher must first go through the pamphlets on Educational Broadcasts published by A.I.R. every quarter, and from them choose those particular broadcasts that he considers suitable for his class.

I will give you an example. Today's broadcast for the Elementary Schools has a talk on 'Precious Stones,' 'The Story of Arjuna's Penance' and 'Physical Exercise.' Let us say the teacher decides to listen into the last item. You may ask how the physical exercise lesson can be broadcast in the radio ? The answer is that it is not just teaching of exercise but teaching rudiments of rhythmic movement also. The teacher in charge of the class listens along with his pupils to the instructions of drill given on the air. All exercises taught, except the warming-up ones

(*Continued on page 43*)

FOR U.K. RALLY: Cadets Carl Peter Ireland and Anand Gopinath of the Third Madras Air Squadron, National Cadet Corps, who participated in the Air Training Corps Rally arranged by the Air Ministry in the United Kingdom. During their stay in London they were guests of the Royal Air Force.

AUG 1952

Harijan Welfare

The campaign against untouchability is the main plank in the policy platform of the Madras Government. The canker of untouchability was eating into the very vitals of Hinduism. Once again it was Madras which responded to the clarion call of Gandhiji in stopping and rooting out from our society this disease of untouchability.

Although for over 30 years, the Madras Government have been trying their best to improve the lot of the Harijans and other backward communities, yet it was only after the declaration of Independence that the real problem was faced and something tangible was done. The Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities Act passed soon after the assumption of power by the chosen representatives of the people removes all disabilities imposed on Harijans by social custom and usage. Another Act—the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act—was also placed on the statute book in 1947. Under this Act all public temples in the State were thrown open to Harijans for worship.

The backwardness and degradation of the Harijans and other backward classes may be traced to illiteracy and ignorance prevailing among them. Special attention has been paid by Government to this great task of educating thousands of Harijan boys and girls. A lot of difficulties arose in the initial stages. Harijan parents really desired their children to receive good education but they hesitated to send them to school for fear of harassment from villagers, schoolmasters and others who were mostly Caste Hindus. Hence a number of schools solely intended for Harijan children had to be opened in Harijan colonies. Mere starting of schools would be of no avail if not followed up by efforts to remove most of the other causes which prevented the Harijan boys and girls from going to school.

The economic backwardness of the parent who cannot afford to give even a good meal for the school-going child, leave alone his inability to get the child books, etc., is another cause for the large percentage of illiteracy anything. To solve this problem the Government are giving boarding grants to private hostels and institutions which accommodate Harijan pupils studying in schools and colleges. Mid-day meals are supplied to the children of Harijan and backward communities. Residential and non-residential scholarships are granted to Harijan pupils.

Provision of House-sites

Another and more important part of the activities of the Government towards the amelioration of the Harijans relates to the efforts of the Government in providing house-sites for homeless Harijans. The Government have granted house-sites for Harijans at the rate of three cents in wet and five cents in dry areas per family and where lands at the disposal of Government are not available, acquisitions of private lands have been ordered. The entire cost of such acquisition is borne by Government in all cases unless the Harijan family which benefits by the acquisition is rich enough to afford meeting the cost. Besides house-sites, lands are being assigned to poor and deserving Harijans.

Special attention is also paid to the construction of wells, pathways, latrines, etc., in Harijan colonies. The organization of co-operative societies is also benefiting Harijans to a great extent.

Every effort is being made to strive for the speedy amelioration of the Harijans. In each District an officer has been deputed to specially attend to all work connected with Harijan welfare. Much progress has been made and for a proper assessment of the success of these measures we must turn to the Harijans themselves and watch their life. The political consciousness that is dawning on them, the education that is fast spreading among them, their becoming alive to civic rights as drawing water from the common well, etc., are indices of the measure of success that Government's activities have attained.

Free Education to Harijans

At a conference called by Dr. M. V. Krishna Rao, Minister for Education, at the Secretariat on July 8, 1952, the question of payment of compensation for loss of fee income in educational institutions and renewal of scholarships to Harijans was considered.

Sri D. Sanjeeviah, Minister for Co-operation, Sri J. Sivashanmugham Pillai, Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly, Secretaries to Government in the Education and the Rural Welfare Departments, the Director of Public Instruction, and the Director of Harijan Welfare were present.

It was decided that the Director of Public Instruction should issue a circular to all colleges and other public educational institutions in the State to the effect that all Harijan students should be admitted, as was done last year, subject to their eligibility for fee concession under the provision of Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules, without requiring them to pay the fees before admission.

The conference also decided that steps should be taken to reimburse the managements of educational institutions at the end of each quarter, instead of at the close of the academic year, as at present, for the loss of fee income sustained by them. The management of institutions should be required to send before the end of the quarter necessary particulars to facilitate the payment of the compensation in time.

It was also decided that the Director of Harijan Welfare should assure the managements of all educational institutions by a circular in respect of students, studying in such institutions, who were recipients of scholarships from the Harijan Welfare Department, that the scholarships will be continued subject to the renewal rules and that the managements of hostels should thereupon admit such students, without asking them to pay the caution deposit, special fees, etc.

The Director of Public Instruction was also instructed to follow up this circular and instruct all Heads of Institutions and wardens of hostels to admit the students in the hostels on the guarantee given by the Director of Harijan Welfare.

1952

Rural Development

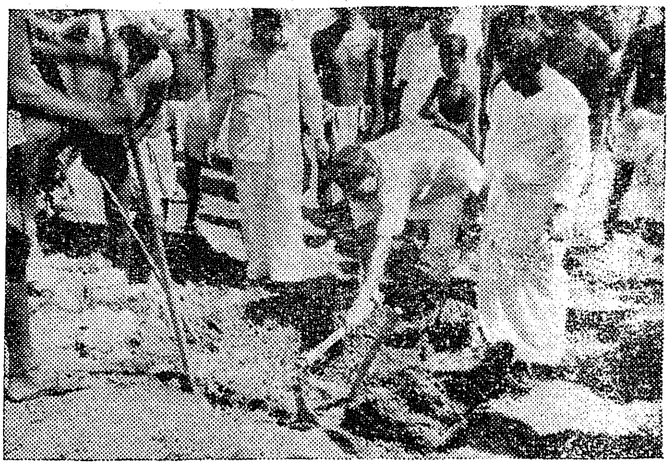
"My idea of village Swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbours for its vital wants, and yet inter-dependent for many others in which dependency is a necessity. Thus every village's just concern will be to grow its own food crops and cotton for its cloth. It should have a reserve for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then, if there is more land available, it will grow useful money crops, thus excluding ganja, tobacco, opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, school and public hall. It will have its own water-works ensuring clean supply. This can be done through controlled wells and tanks. Education will be compulsory up to the final basic course. As far as possible, every activity will be conducted on the co-operative basis. There will be no castes, such as we have today, with their graded untouchability." —*GANDHIJI*

The Rural Welfare Scheme of the Madras Government attempts to translate into reality this dream of Gandhiji. It is a new and promising activity of the Government. The chief aim has been the improvement of the living conditions in the villages and creating in the villagers an active and intelligent interest in their problems and making them self-confident and self-reliant. Greater emphasis is laid on the improvement of the economic and sanitary conditions, for the main object of the scheme is the organization of the villages for a happier, fuller and more prosperous life in which the individual villager will have the opportunity to develop both as an individual and as a unit of a well-integrated society. The programme as a whole is viewed from the community angle and the villagers themselves are encouraged to work for the objective of improving their lot. The Government's role in the implementation of the programme is that a catalytic agent; and it does nothing more than teaching, guiding and encouraging villagers to make their village a happier place to live in.

The Rural Welfare Programme was first launched in 34 firkas in the State during the last quarter of 1946 and is being extended year after year to additional firkas. The welfare programme envisages the development of agriculture and village industries, improvement of sanitation, health and housing, and organization of village education and village culture.

Agriculture

The need for giving priority for growing food crops is greatly emphasised in the Rural Welfare Programme. The villagers are taught the use of night-soil, farmyard and green manure, bonemeal and how to prevent soil erosion, reclamation of waste lands, afforestation and tree-planting. By supplying seeds free of cost, the villagers are encouraged to cultivate subsidiary food crops like sweet potato and tapioca and vegetables. They are also encouraged to prepare compost manure. The other concessions and help rendered by the Government in the selected firkas include the hiring of pumpsets or their sale on hire-purchase system, on a priority basis. Improved seeds of paddy, millets and pulses are distributed at considerably reduced rates. Green manure crop seeds, sulphate of ammonia and phosphatic manure are all supplied at subsidised rates. Agricultural implements are sold to poor cultivators in the selected firkas at half rates. Whatever concession might



HELPING HAND: Sri S. K. Dey, Community Projects Administrator, lends a helping hand at Muruganeri (Madurai District) by joining in the digging in a self-help campaign.

be given, the cultivator does not go in for them unless he is fully convinced of the efficacy of improved methods. A number of demonstration plots were laid out on farmers' fields.

High priority is given in the selected firkas to e execution of repairs and improvements to the irrigation sources. Old wells and tanks are repaired, supply channels excavated, sluices improved. Three irrigation schemes at a cost of over Rs. 1,13,000 were completed.

Rural electrification is another subject which received the special attention of the Government. Rural electrification schemes costing Rs. 87 lakhs have so far been sanctioned to supply power for lifting water from wells, and for domestic purposes. One hundred and fifteen villages in the selected firkas get the supply of electricity.

Another problem tackled in the villages under the Rural Welfare Programme is Village Livestock Improvement. A scheme aiming at concentrated livestock improvement in the villages is under implementation in four selected firkas. In another three selected firkas the problem of augmenting the production of improved breeds of poultry and eggs is being tackled.

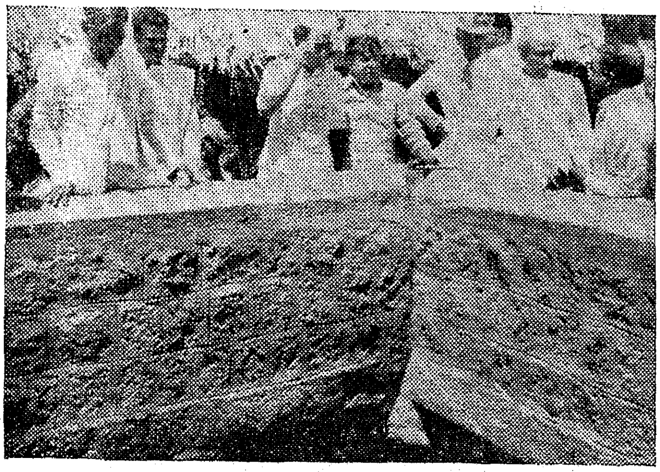
Torch of Learning

Much of the neglect and the sickening conditions prevailing in the villages may be attributed to the illiteracy in which the villagers are steeped in. When once the torch of learning is lit in these desolate patches of this State, better conditions of living are sure to follow. This has been amply proved by the fact that in the selected firkas where increasing efforts are made to open more schools, adult literacy centres, and reading rooms, there is life and the villagers in those places go about their work with greater understanding than they ever did before. First preference is being given to selected firkas and centres in the matter of location of the Basic training schools and in training teachers. Reading rooms are built and libraries opened in them.

The figures below will convince one about the substantial progress achieved in this direction. Up to the end of 1951, 347 elementary schools, 530 night schools, 408 adult centres, 40 Basic education schools and 16 Basic training schools were started; 161 school buildings were constructed, 25 central libraries, 270 reading rooms and 625 branch libraries were newly started and 150 old reading rooms were revived; 243 radio sets were installed and 53 radio houses built.

Sanitation and Health

The teaching of the hygienic value of personal habits of cleanliness and group cleanliness in the selected firkas by the Rural Welfare staff has brought about the desired changes in the villages who have now taken upon themselves the task of making the villages clean and tidy. In the health propaganda carried on by the Rural Welfare staff emphasis is always laid on prevention rather than cure by the adoption of simple rules of hygiene. One hundred dispensaries, maternity and child-welfare centres have been



WELL WORK: Sri S. K. Dey inspects a well work accomplished by the Harijans of Chinnachettulotti.

opened in the selected firkas for the benefit of the sick, nursing mothers and children.

As another cause for the backwardness of the villages may be cited the lack of good rural roads. The Government bestow special attention to the improvement of village communications. So far 568 miles of roads have been laid, 116 miles of roads improved and 111 miles of cart-tracks, village rasthas and foot-paths were formed. Three hundred and twenty-nine culverts and 120 road dams were constructed.

Revival of Village Industries

With a view to revive the dying village industries, the Government have sanctioned the Village Industries Scheme. Under this scheme, important labour saving tools and implements to the value of Rs. 6 lakhs have been supplied to the artisans, and raw materials costing Rs. 12 lakhs have been sold to them through co-operative societies at cost price, and model centres for village industries have been established. So far more than 2,000 artisans have been supplied with free tools and implements at a cost of over Rs. 2 lakhs. Besides these industries over 40,000 families are engaged in spinning and weaving khadi in the eight Intensive Khadi Centres.

The Rural Welfare Programme also envisages the provision of houses for the homeless poor. The Government are encouraging the acquisition of house-sites for the purpose of building houses for the poor.

Considerable progress has been made in regard to co-operative activities in the firkas selected for Rural Welfare work. There are 2,337 villages in selected firkas and so far 2,103 villages have already been served by co-operative societies. As an experimental measure 70 full-fledged multi-purpose co-operative societies have been organised in three firkas.

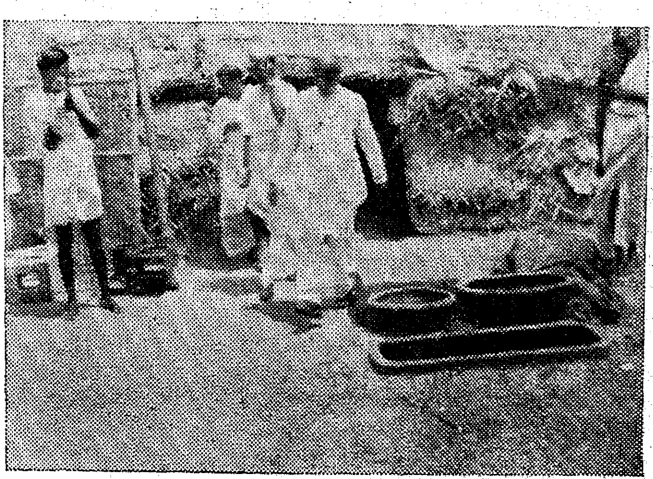
Planning for Rural Industrialization

The Rural Industrialization Co-ordination Committee, constituted under Sri M. Viswesvarayya's Rural Industrialization Scheme, in Nellore Taluk, met in Nellore on July 5, 1952, with Sri M. T. Raju, Director of Industries and Commerce, as the Chairman. The Village Group Committees of Pederu, Indukurpet and Mypad presented reports of survey of their group areas for existing cottage and small-scale industries, the raw materials and other resources available in the areas and prepared development plans for industrialising their areas.

These plans were discussed in detail at the meeting of the Co-ordination Committee and were approved with certain modifications. Apart from the local efforts and contributions that will be made by the Village Group, the Co-ordination Committee has requested the Government for technical and financial assistance on a small scale.

Treatment of Non-Infectious Cases

The Medical Officer of the Engineering College Dispensary, Kakinada, has been permitted to treat cases of non-infectious type coming from villages adjacent to the College of Engineering.



COTTAGE INDUSTRIES: Going round the Cottage Industries Section at Kallupatty, while Sri V. Achuthan Nair, Rural Welfare Officer, explains the working of the magan chula.

Rural Welfare Activities

A brief note on the salient features of the activities of the Rural Welfare Department in the areas selected for Rural Welfare during May 1952 is given below :—

Madurai District.—During the month under review, 73 charkhas were distributed and 7,566 hanks were produced. Fifty-two compost pits were dug, ten acres of waste land were brought under tractor ploughing, 3,300 Sesbania seedlings and 65 trees were planted. Mr. Howard Sochurer, representative of *Life* Magazine, U.S.A., and Sri S. K. Dey, Administrator of Community Projects, Government of India, visited this area and were impressed by the enthusiasm and self-reliance of the villagers.

Tanjore District.—During the month, 63 charkhas were repaired ; 756 hanks of yarn were produced under the Extensive Khadi Scheme. One hundred and six manure pits were dug ; 96 manure pits were rectified ; 72 compost pits were laid ; and 297½ tons of compost manure was produced. Fourteen insanitary pits were filled up and 65 trenches and Wardha type latrines were constructed. Eighty-seven trees were planted ; 21 mass meetings, 74 bhajanas, prayers and congregation spinnings were conducted.

Bellary District.—Forty-six sanitary drives were conducted, 463 books were distributed and nine compost pits were formed. A demonstration to show how to grow the Moosambi by modern methods, and 26 charkha demonstrations were conducted. Four charkhas were distributed ; 100 y..rds of yarn was spun.

Tiruchirappalli District.—In Vengalam and Valikandapuram firkas 32 charkhas were distributed. Eight hundred and twenty-one chittams were collected and khadi for Rs. 135 were sold to the spinners and others.

In the Vellakoil centre, 21 public meetings were held ; nine bhajanas were conducted and five mass spinning demonstrations were organised. Twenty-seven soak pits were constructed ; 24 compost pits were opened and 16 manure pits were rectified. Seven Grama Seva Samajams were organised.

In Musiri firka, 1,167 hanks of yarn were collected ; khadi to the value of Rs. 143–6–3 was supplied to spinners and 43 charkhas were introduced during the month. Twelve compost pits were prepared. Mhote wheel demonstration was conducted in four places. Tools were distributed to eight village artisans free of cost and raw materials to the value of Rs. 1,000 were distributed to artisans and members. An adult education school was opened.

Chittoor District.—During the month, six charkhas were introduced ; 20 trees were planted and 950 books were distributed ; 149 cattle were attended to and 92 were castrated ; 25 compost pits were dug.

West Godavari District.—In Dendulur firka, 14 irrigation wells were supplied with electricity. Harijan Day was celebrated and inter-communal dining and social dramas were organised.

North Arcot District.—Sanitation work was done by the Rural Welfare staff in 82 villages and 67 cheries. Twenty-five trench latrines and 73 compost pits were dug. Thirty-eight charkhas were introduced under the Extensive Khadi Scheme and 732 hanks of khadi were produced during the month. Twenty-two old wells were deepened in the Rural Welfare area and five Grama Seva Sanghams were registered under the Societies Registration Act.

South Kanara District.—In Kumbla firka, 3¾ acres of waste lands were terraced and made fit for cultivation. Twenty-nine green manure nurseries were raised. One branch library was opened at Narayanamangalam. Three houses were constructed in the Koraga Colony costing nearly Rs. 3,000 from public donations. D.D.T. spraying was done in Kumbadaje. Eleven charkhas and 14 beehives were distributed.

In Manjeswar firka 1·60 acres of waste lands were brought under cultivation. Three hundred and seventy-eight pounds of improved paddy seeds were distributed and 15 green manure nurseries were raised. One flushout and a Wardha type atrine were constructed. Thirty-two charkhas and two beehives were introduced.

In Mulki firka, 1·15 acres of land were brought under cultivation. Three hundred and seventy-six pounds of improved strains of paddy seeds were supplied. Nine green manure nurseries were raised. Four flushout latrines were constructed, 34 charkhas and six beehives were introduced.

South Arcot District.—In Kadambuliyur firka, 35 compost pits were dug ; 18 trench latrines and three community latrines were put up during the month. Three charkhas were introduced and 702 hanks of yarn was produced.

In Chinnasalem centre, five public meetings were conducted. A sum of Rs. 71 was disbursed as compost subsidy to the ryots. A spinning competition was conducted. Books, slates, charts and lanterns were distributed to adult education centres.

The Nilgiris District.—During the month, 51 compost pits were opened ; 12 manure pits were dug and a sum of Rs. 170 was paid to the ryots as subsidy for compost making. Thirty-two pounds of Samai seeds and eight pounds of new strains of wheat were supplied to the ryots in Kundah firka.

Tirunelveli District.—Forty-eight compost pits were dug ; 21 charkhas were sold and 1,297 hanks of yarn was spun during the month. Tools to the value of Rs. 5,845 have been supplied free of cost to the artisans.

Ramanathapuram District.—Ten charkhas were introduced. Khadi to the value of Rs. 33–2–3 was exchanged for hanks with the self-spinners. Twenty-five compost pits were dug ; 19 sweeping campaigns and 26 propaganda meetings were conducted.

East Godavari District.—During this month, 21 model compost pits were dug and 98 were set right. Ninety-six tons of manure was taken to the field and 42 manure heaps were removed. Twelve charkhas were sold ; 47 charkhas were repaired ; 683 hanks of yarn was collected and 74 yards of cloth was woven.

Krishna District.—In Kurnool firka, 63 manure pits were set right ; two insanitary pits were levelled ; 21 compost pits were dug and 17 pits were filled up. Seven

(*Continued on page* 35)

The Public and P & T Facilities

The vast majority of the public of this country do not know of the existence of a large number of special facilities provided by the P. & T Department. Instances of such facilities, some of which were being very rarely utilised, were detailed by Major C. V. Rajan, Postmaster-General, Madras, while discussing the progress of the Department in Madras Circle at a quarterly meeting of the P & T Advisory Committee, Madras. The meeting which was presided over by Major Rajan was attended, among others, by Janab Sibghathulla, Mayor of Madras, Mr. Ian Cummings, representative of the Madras Chamber of Commerce, and Sri L. Srinivasan, representative of the Indian Chamber of Commerce.

Beginning, at the request of the members of the Committee, with an enumeration of the special amenities, Sri C. V. Rajan said: The Mobile Post-Office is a special feature of the City. It works in a specially fitted motor van and stops for half an hour daily at selected centres between 5 p.m. and 8-30 p.m. The places of halt are Ripon Buildings, Rattan Bazaar, Marina (opposite to Presidency College), Mylapore and T. Nagar. Special arrangements exist for the despatch of letters posted in the Mobile Post-Office to the mail trains from each of the above points except at T. Nagar. The timing at T. Nagar, however, is such that it is not possible to send the postings to the mail trains, but they are taken to the airport. Postings at all the centres connect the air-mail despatch at Meenambakkam. The Mobile Post-Office works on all days of the week, including Sundays and Post-Office holidays. No late fee is necessary on the articles posted in it.

Special Night Clearances of Letter Boxes

While the street letter boxes in the City are cleared four times a day, those located in the post-offices proper are cleared specially twice during the nights by despatch riders using motor-cycles, once between 6-30 p.m. and 8-30 p.m. to connect the Night Airmail Service at 11 p.m. and again between 10-30 p.m. and midnight to connect the early morning air services. No late fee is necessary on these postings.

In addition to the Mobile Post-Office and the special night clearances referred to above, the Madras G.P.O. and the Mount Road P.O. specially observe extended working hours from 8 a.m. to 8-30 p.m. on all days of the week including Sundays but excluding Post-Office holidays. They transact all classes of business except money orders and insured articles during the extended hours. Special arrangements have been made to connect the postings in these offices both with the outgoing mail trains and the night Air Service. No late fee is necessary on postings in these two offices even on Sundays.

Delivery on Sundays

There is still some misapprehension in this matter. On Sundays delivery of mails has been suspended in all offices. In certain selected offices, however (there are 96 offices in the Madras Circle), only Express Delivery articles pre-paid with an additional fee of annas two in addition to the ordinary postage, are delivered. Offices not so selected for the purpose are *not* authorised to deliver even Express Delivery articles on Sundays. A complete list of post-offices in the whole of India which are authorised to deliver Express Delivery articles on Sundays is available in all post-offices for reference. The public are requested to make sure before posting Express Delivery letters intended for delivery on Sundays, that facilities for their delivery are available at destination. Express Delivery articles posted for offices other than the authorised ones will result in their not being delivered at all on Sundays.

Special arrangements have been made for the posting of late-fee articles on Sundays in certain selected post-offices and in all departmental telegraph offices and R.M.S. Offices. Late-fee articles posted in these selected offices should bear an additional fee of half-an-anna besides the ordinary postage. The late-fee in respect of postings made in R.M.S. Offices will, however, be one anna per article.

Articles posted on Sundays in the selected offices should always bear late-fee as otherwise they would not be despatched.

Identity Cards

Identity cards issued to travellers by the P & T Department are neat to carry and are very useful to people who are frequently on tour and who cannot be conveniently identified by the local postmen. These are available at all important Post-Offices at a cost of one rupee. The cards are valid for three years. A photograph should be supplied by the applicant to be affixed in the card.

In the case of large offices and firms, pre-payment of postage by impressions of franking machines is recommended. This saves labour in accounting for the stamps and in fixing them on each article. Licence for the use of franking machines can be obtained from the Head of the Circle. The machines which are available in the market must be purchased by the applicant himself.

Cheques drawn on banks who have furnished a guarantee on behalf of the drawer, are accepted in P & T transactions provided the amount is not less than Rs. 20. Pay orders from a local bank can, however, be accepted without a guarantee by prior approval.

Private telegrams relating to human life involved in accidents, death, etc., are charged at inland express rates but are given precedence in transmission over urgent and express messages.

Greetings telegrams for festive or congratulatory occasions are accepted at a reduced rate, the minimum charge being annas eight for 'ordinary' and Re. 1 for 'express.' The list of stock phrases is available at all telegraph offices. Greetings telegrams are also accepted by telephone for onward transmission. They are delivered at destination in specially designed pictorial forms and envelopes. *De Luxe* greetings telegrams may also be sent by a person using his own text in the message. Greetings telegram forms and envelopes are also available for sale in all Government Telegraph Offices at a cost of annas two a form and an envelope, and they can be sent by ordinary post on payment of two annas as postage.

Phonogram Service

The phonogram service is available for telephone subscribers in all important towns. Under this system telegrams could be transmitted over the phone to the telegraph offices. Similarly, telegrams received to subscribers could also be telephoned from the telegraph office by prior arrangement or if the telephone number is given in the address. In the City of Madras telegrams are accepted over the phone free of charge. In other places a fee of two annas is charged for each message.

Local telegrams are accepted for delivery in the local delivery area at the rate of six annas for eight words or less for ordinary and twelve annas for express telegrams. Greetings telegrams can also be sent as local telegrams.

A messenger service exists for inward particular person calls at Public Call Offices where there is sufficient demand for this. Under this system, a messenger is sent to inform the particular person wanted that there is a trunk call for him. A fee of eight annas is charged for this service on each call, in addition to the usual charges.

All post-offices sell pocket P & T Guides priced at anna one each and lists of trunk call rates at the same price. The ceiling rate for the maximum distance is Rs. 12 and half of that rate is levied between 6 and 8 hours and 21 hours to midnight. One-third rate is charged for trunk calls between 00 hours and 6 hours. Thus, for a call say from Madras to Delhi or Shillong between 00 hours and 6 hours, the charge will be only Rs. 4 for three minutes.

Public can assist

In conclusion, the Postmaster-General said that it has always been the constant endeavour of the Department to provide the public with ever-increasing facilities. He appealed for co-operation from the public and added that the post-offices would be able to serve them more efficiently if a few but essential details are carefully borne in mind. He laid stress on the need for correct addressing and pointed out that in Madras City alone as many as 6,000 articles were daily received badly addressed. These letters kept floating from one post-office to another before reaching their correct destination. The problem would be greatly solved by the mention of the zonal number of the post-office concerned wherever the zonal numbering system is in force, e.g., at Madras, Bangalore, Kozhikode and Mangalore. The omission of post-box numbers constituted another serious handicap. The mention of post-box numbers would minimise the labour of the sorters considerably and would at the same time greatly accelerate delivery of the mail.

The Postmaster-General also pointed out that address on articles from one linguistic area to another should preferably be written in English. He estimated that nearly 3,000 articles addressed in local languages travelled to Madras daily only for the purpose of translation. There is another point in which the business community could contribute a lot to the efficient sorting of mails. This is by spreading out their postings over the whole day. As it is, nearly 70 per cent of the letters posted in a day came to the post-office late in the evening with the result that the sorting staff have to rush through the work of sorting within the last one hour or so.

Ration Scales in Fair Price Shops

The scale of rice ration in fair price shops functioning in the Municipal areas after the abolition of rationing will continue to be 7 oz., until further orders so that the consumers may not find any difficulty until free market availability is established. This was made clear in the orders issued by the Government, on June 7, 1952. This note is issued to correct the impression created by reports in certain newspapers that the scale will be reduced to 5 oz. from 6th July 1952. This is completely wrong. Government will watch the situation and reduce the scale only if there is plenty of free market availability of rice and it becomes unnecessary to issue as much as 7 oz.

Collection of Loans Postponed

The Government have postponed the collection of loan instalments and summary recovery of loans to Fasli 1362 in the villages in Sulurpet Taluk, Nellore District, and the seven villages in Pellur Taluk, Guntur District, which are affected by adverse seasonal conditions.

The Government now direct that summary recovery of subsidies granted under all the well subsidy schemes be postponed to the kist season of Fasli 1362 in the villages referred to above.

The Government have already postponed the collection of instalments for loans to Fasli 1362 in Dharapuram Taluk of Coimbatore District, which is affected by adverse seasonal conditions. The Government now direct that summary recovery of subsidies granted under all the Well Subsidy Schemes be postponed to the kist season of Fasli 1362 in Dharapuram Taluk, Coimbatore District.

Road Works Sanctioned

Grants not exceeding Rs. 1,19,000 and Rs. 73,250 have been sanctioned in the current year for the Nellore and Coimbatore District Boards respectively for executing road works.

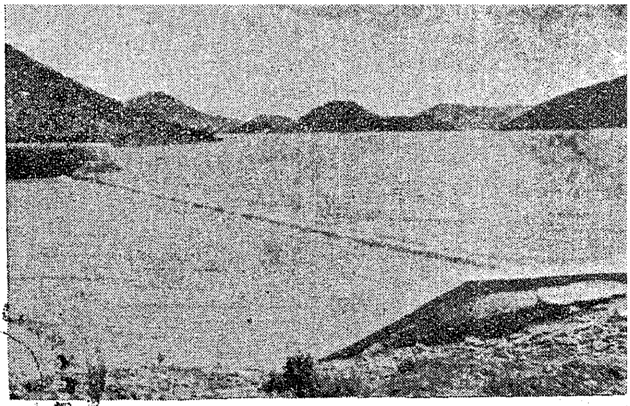
This action has been taken in order to provide relief to the unemployed agricultural labourers, who are affected by adverse seasonal conditions in the districts.

Concessional Rates in Railway for Despatch of Gift Grains

The Railway Board have extended up to October 31, 1952, the grant of concession of half the existing rates by goods trains plus full terminals and other charges for consignments of gift grains, despatched for the relief of the people in scarcity areas in Madras.

Tamil Drama Banned

The Government have banned the staging in any public place in the State of the Tamil drama *Vibhishanan* or *Marumalarchi*.



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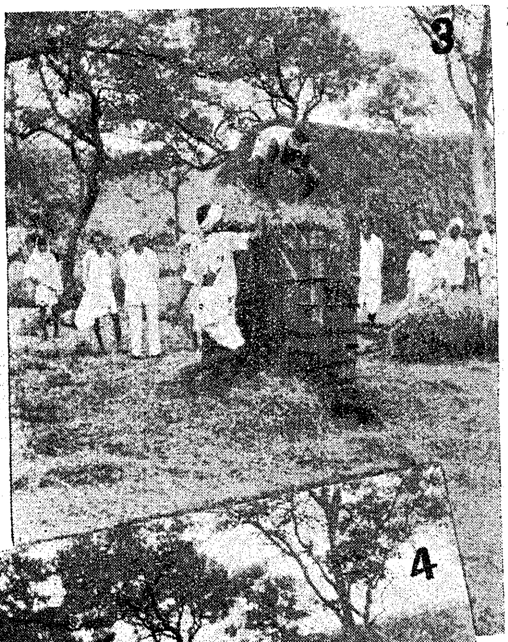
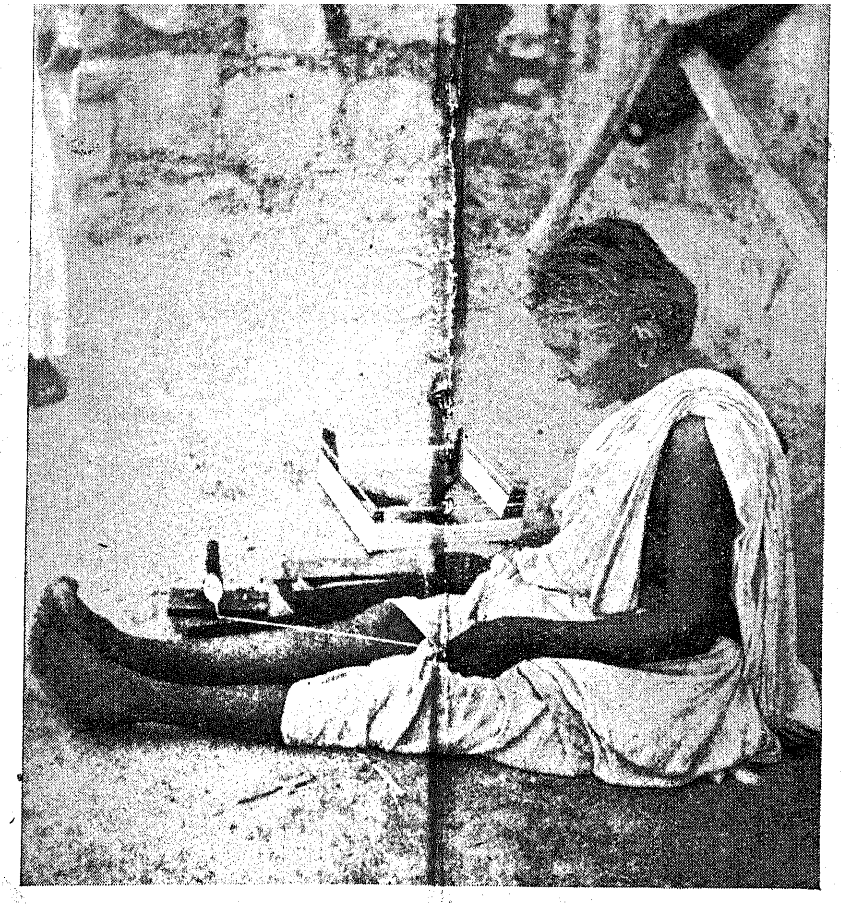
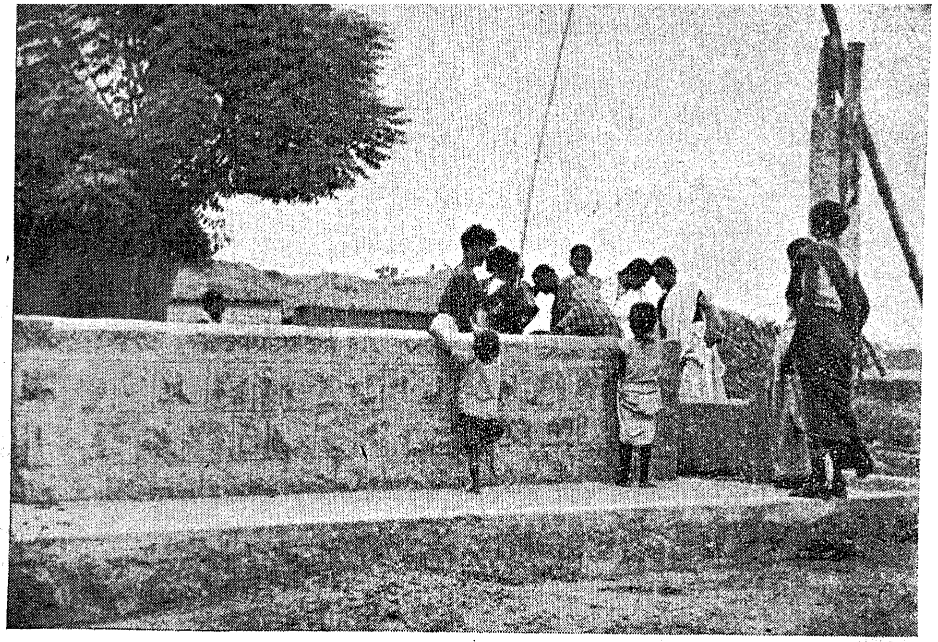


RAYALASEEMA RELIEF: 1. Totally dry in March 1952, this open well in Thippayapalem village was deepened under the Rural Water Supply Scheme and was filled by rains by the third week of May.

2. The Cumbum Tank surplusing after the heavy July rains.

CHELAMA FODDER OPERATIONS: 3. The fodder press is filled with hill grass. 4. The lid is adjusted. 5. The lid is cranked down. 6. The bale is then fastened with bamboo skin tape or wire. 7. Stacks of hill grass in the fodder depot with bales ready for transport to famine affected areas.



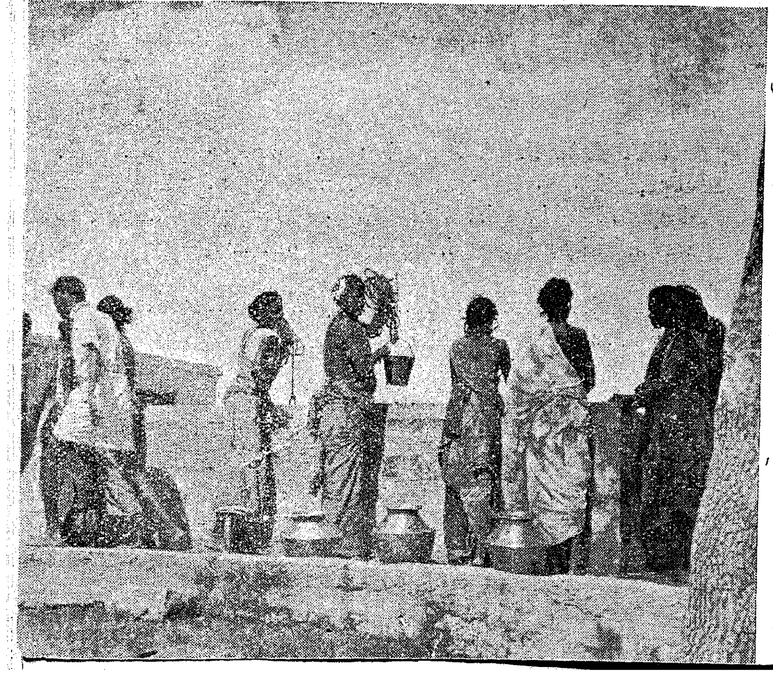


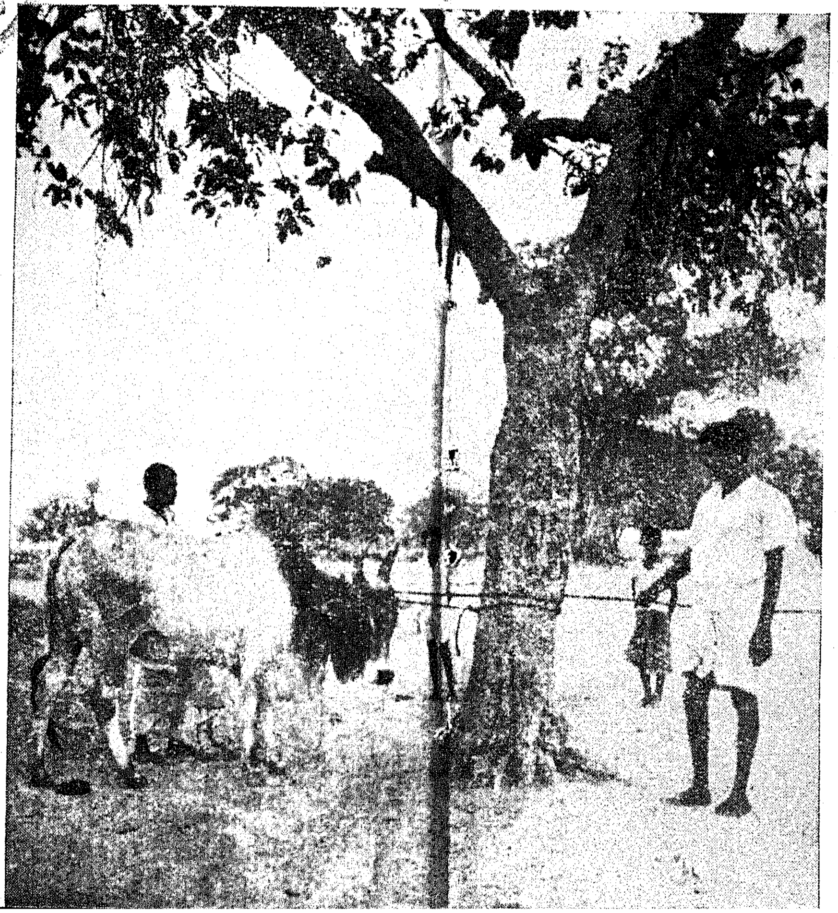
RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

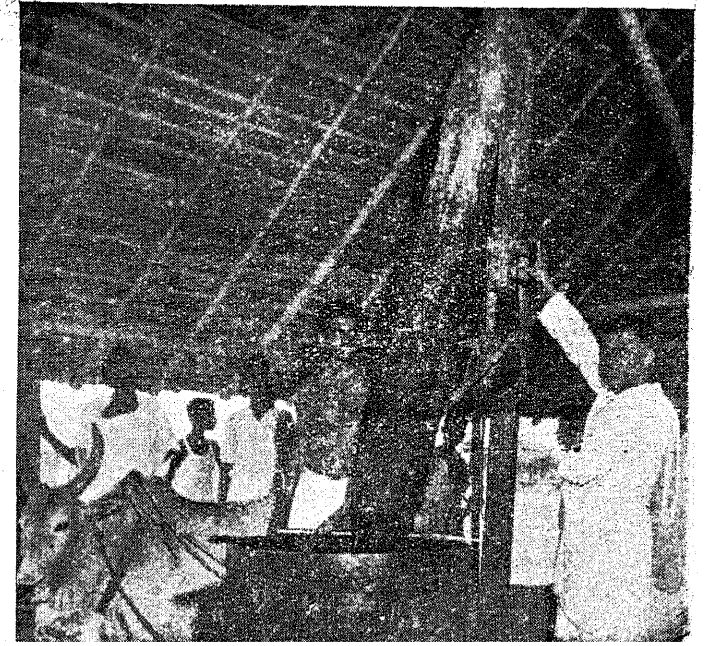
The Rural Development Scheme in Madras State aims at enriching ge life by encouraging villagers to improve their living condi ions and ons by self-help and mutual co-operation. The villagers learn better iods of agriculture and handicrafts, useful leisure hour occupations pinning, healthy habits like sanitation and personal cleanl:ness, oved techniques of farming as pedigree breeding, and oil milling.

Above (*left*) : At the charkha. The entire family spins at home.
(*centre*) : Age is no handicap with the charkha.
(*right*) : This well was built by villagers co-operating at the work, the Government grant covering only a part of the cost.
Below (*left*) : Washing and bathing are done at specially built enclosures. The Harijans of Chinnachittulotti built this well.
(*centre*) : Pedigree bulls are needed to raise village stock. This Kangayam bull was bought by the Melakottai Co-operative Society.
(*right*) : A ghani designed for economy and efficiency, built at the Kallupatti Village Industrial School.

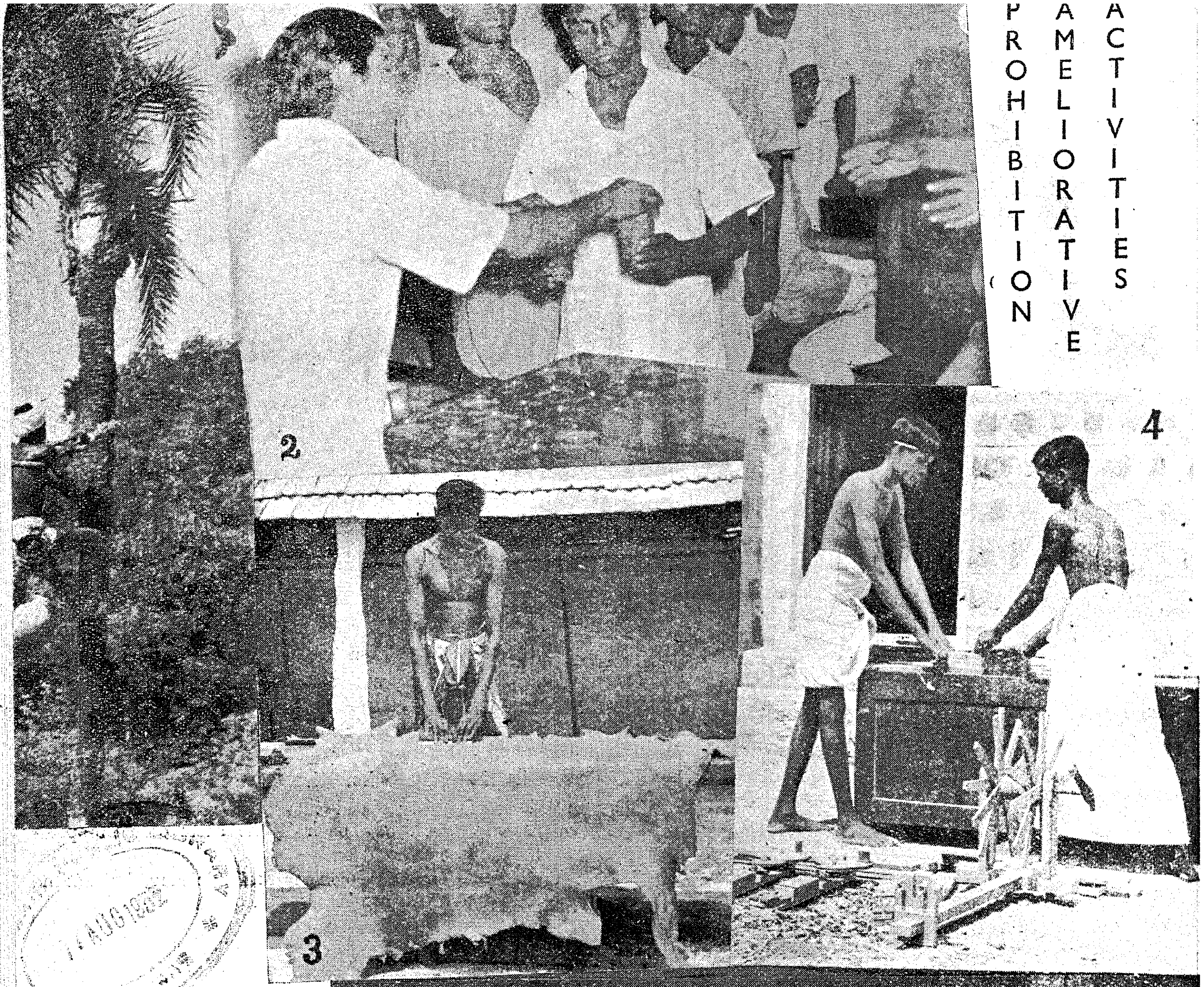
MADRAS







PROHIBITION AMELIORATIVE ACTIVITIES



. Tapping a palm tree for ·ra, sweet toddy.

;. Brisk sales at a neera parlour.

;. Leather tanning by a mem- of the Gandhiniketan Co- ·rative Village Industries ;iety.

;. Carpentry Section at ndhiniketan.

;. Timber being sold to artisan- mbers of the Dendulur Multi- ·pose Co-operative Society.

Ameliorative Activities

Progress of ameliorative activities in connexion with the prohibition campaign in Madras State during the month of May 1952 *is given below :—*

SOUTH KANARA DISTRICT : *Mangalore.*—During the month of May 1952, five co-operative societies were registered and three societies were started on work.

The S.K.C.C.W. Stores sold through its retail depots 17 tons 1,332½ lb. of ammonium sulphate and 1,428 lb. of superphosphate. The primary societies sold 1 ton 316 lb. of ammonium sulphate and 84 lb. of superphosphate during the month.

The Central Stores also sold 612 lb. of M.S. Flats, 8 tons and 1,494 lb. of M.S. Rounds, 201 lb. of Octogonal steel bars and 247 lb. of M.S. Squares.

Thrift.—The thrift collections effected during the month amounted to Rs. 11,228–9–0.

Harijan Welfare.—The Central Banks issued a loan of Rs. 750 to one Harijan Society during the month. The Special Co-operative Inspectors, Mangalore and Udipi, visited 17 and 8 societies respectively during the month. Harijan Day was celebrated at four centres, viz., Cheranthipet, Kilpadi, Haleangady and Puttur in Udipi Taluk on 30th M y 1952. Collections to the tune of Rs. 428–2–0 were effected by the two Special Co-operative Inspectors during their visit to the societies.

Kasargod Circle.—During the month, the Kanhangad Co-operative Milk Supply Society which was organized previously was registered. A rural credit society was organized at Kinanur II village in the Nileshwar Centre during the month of May 1952.

KURNOOL DISTRICT.—The total number of societies at the end of the month of May 1952 was 439. The target fixed by the Government in this respect has already been reached and the percentage is 54·08. In 19 societies, 169 members were admitted and a sum of Rs. 172 was collected towards share capital from the new members. The percentage of villages served by rural credit societies in the district is 54·08 and the percentage of population served is 8·15 as against 54·08 and 8·07 in the previous month.

Borrowings.—Under the scheme of cheap loans, eight societies (rural credit) borrowed a sum of Rs. 20,415 under short-term loans and 12 societies borrowed a sum of Rs. 29,650 under M.T. loans. There is on the last date of the month a sum of Rs. 10,87,912 outstanding against rural credit societies.

Multipurpose activities.—In one society controlled commodities to the tune of Rs. 176–9–0 were purchased and distributed to 75 members. In three societies, social and recreational activities were introduced and 32 members were benefited to the extent of Rs. 17–8–0. Fifteen members were benefited in one society in encouraging cottage industries to the extent of Rs. 30.

Post-sanction loans.—Five societies were selected for the introduction of the scheme for post-sanction loans. During the month no loan was sanctioned.

Pump-set loans.—During the month one society applied for a loan of Rs. 3,000 for the purchase of a pump-set. One loan amounting to Rs. 3,500 was sanctioned by the bank to another society during the month, but no amount was disbursed.

WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT.—During the month of May 1952, the Special Senior Inspectors for Jaggery Societies issued 285 licences to ex-tappers, bringing the total number of licences issued up to the end of the month to 8,559 in 138 out of 141 jaggery societies for manufacturing palmyra jaggery.

South Circle.—Propaganda for thrift was continued to be made by Central Bank staff. A sum of Rs. 393 was collected under thrift deposit through hundi boxes. A sum of Rs. 393 was collected under thrift deposit through hundi boxes. The propaganda van was on tour for 26 days in Salem Circle and visited 19 villages and exhibited in these villages.

BELLARY DISTRICT.—During the month of May 1952, fifteen credit societies were registered and with this the total number of societies in the district comes to 369. The construction of godowns in the four societies in the district was progressed. The community hall of the Grama Sangam at Halaharvi was inspected for the issue of final valuation certificate. The Alur Firka Cottage Industries Co-operative Federation sold cement, iron and steel and timber to the tune of Rs. 220–13–3, and the interest-free loan outstanding is Rs. 3,295.

NILGIRIS DISTRICT.—Thrift days were celebrated in two societies during the month of May 1952, and the amounts noted against each were collected.

	RS.	A.	P.
Thogalatty Co-operative Society	10	13	0
Kilkotagiri Co-operative Society	11	12	0
Total ..	22	9	0

During the month, the Minister for Agriculture visited the Ootacamund Co-operative Milk Supply Society and made suggestions for improving its working. He also visited the Nilgiris Co-operative Marketing Society.

CHITTOOR DISTRICT.—During the month of May 1952, two jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies were organized. The thirty jaggery societies working in the district produced and sold 398·20 maunds of jaggery worth Rs. 2,352–5–0 during the month. Thrift fund amounting to Rs. 13 was collected from the members of the jaggery societies during the month.

RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT.—The existing jaggery manufacturers' co-operative societies admitted during the month 84 members and collected Rs. 84 as additional share capital. At the end of the month there were 171 jaggery manufacturers' co-operative societies with 18,263 members and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 30,292.

Including the 401 licences for tapping of sweet juice and 403 permits for the sale of sweet juice issued during the month, the total number of licences and permits in force on 31st May 1952 were 6,327 and 2,981 respectively ; 7,405 maunds of palmyra jaggery valued at Rs. 29,939 were

produced and the entire stock was disposed of for Rs. 25,065. The Palm Gur Instructors imparted training in the production of refined jaggery by the improved method at four centres and also conducted two demonstrations during the month, which were attended by 94 tappers.

Two multipurpose rural credit societies were registered during the month. The number of societies at the end of month rose to 538 consisting of 49,484 members with a share capital of Rs. 6,91,092. The villages covered by the societies were 1,331 and this works out to 55 per cent of the villages in the district. These societies are serving 17 per cent of the rural population.

A total number of 465 societies have changed their names to multipurpose rural co-operative credit societies and adopted the latest model by-laws prescribed by the Registrar to enable them to undertake one or more activities other than affording credit facilities to the members. The transactions under the multipurpose activities of the rural credit societies during the month amounted to Rs. 8,115-6-6.

TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT.—The Madras Government have permitted selling of neera to the public for consumption as beverage in Tirunelveli District. The sweet juice drawn from palm trees otherwise called neera is used as a beverage by labour classes and middle-class people. There are 217 jaggery societies working in this circle and the sweet juice drawn by many of the members is either converted into jaggery or sold to the public as sweet juice itself. The sweet juice is good for health and is a good food. The Co-operative Department which has arranged for the organization of these jaggery societies is also making efforts to arrange for the marketing of jaggery through these societies to fetch a better price for the members. Likewise, as an experimental measure, attempts were made to sell the sweet juice drawn by members of societies under hygienic conditions to public by opening neera stalls, wherever found possible.

At present there are three neera stalls working in this circle. The Pettai Jaggery Society has opened a neera stall at Tirunelveli town and the Vannarpettai Jaggery Society has opened two neera stalls, one at Sindupoondurai near Tirunelveli Junction and another near Palayamkottai market. These neera stalls get the supply of pure neera early in the morning by 6 a.m. drawn by members of societies direct from topes and it is sold to the public under hygienic conditions. These three neera stalls have been provided with utensils and articles required for the business out of a Government subsidy of Rs. 250 for each neera stall. The neera is purchased at annas 3 per Madras measure and sold at annas 4 per measure to the public.

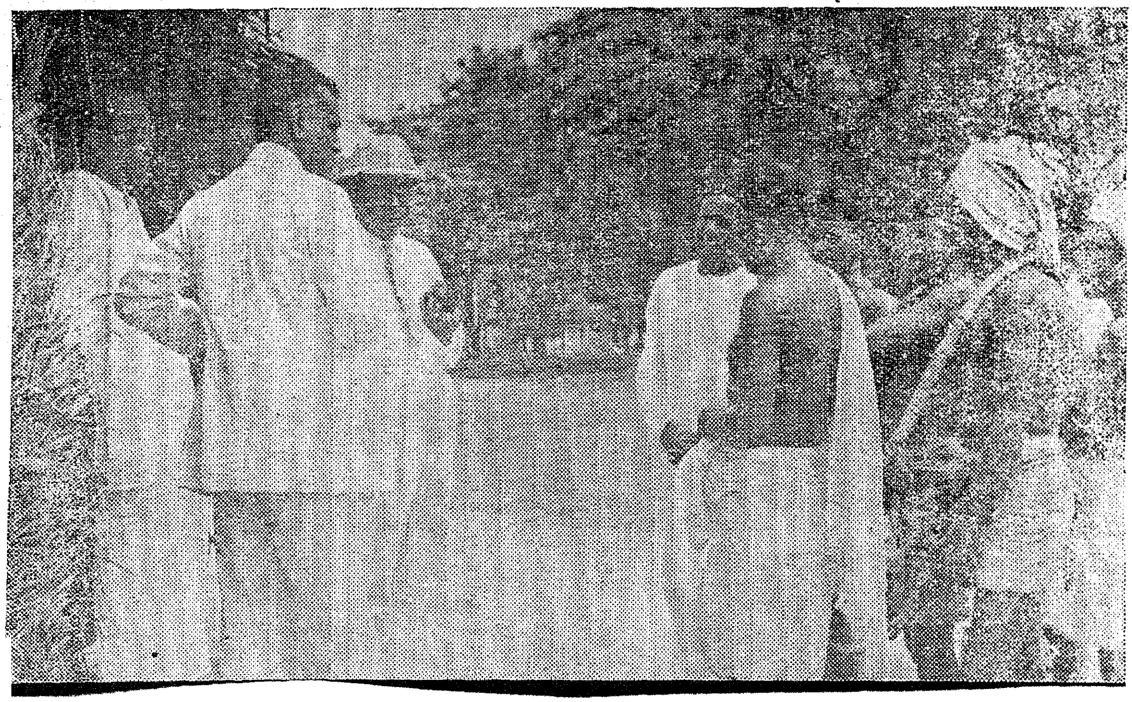
The neera stall at Tirunelveli town run under the auspices of the Pettai Jaggery Co-operative Society has purchased 2,584 Madras measure of neera to the value of Rs. 484-8-0 from members and sold to the public for Rs. 646 during the last four months from February to May 1952.

About 12,000 persons have taken neera from this stall. Most of the people were ordinary labourers and small merchants of the locality. This jaggery society has 236 members on rolls with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 236 at the end of the month.

The neera stalls at Sindupoondurai and at Palayamkottai market have purchased 2,399 Madras measure of neera to the value of Rs. 439-9-0 from members and sold to the public for Rs. 569-12-0 during the last four months from February 1952 during the current juice season. The jaggery society has 540 members on rolls with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 576 at the end of the month.

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT.—The Perungolathur Multipurpose Rural Credit Society (G. 1,320) has prepared a scheme to show the vital role the co-operatives can play in the national planning provided they are given the facilities to help in the matter of contributing to the success of such planning. It is a small rural credit society with 120 members of whom 75 per cent own 148·78 acres

WITH THE TAPPERS : Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, Minister for Prohibition, talks to some of the tappers engaged in the tapping of date trees in the Government House Estate compound, Mount Road, Madras.



TASTING NEERA : Recently the Minister for Prohibition, Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, visited neera parlours in Madras City. Here he is seen tasting a glass of neera at one of the parlours.

of wet lands among them. The remaining 25 per cent do not own any wet lands but only dry lands. Most of the members belong to the depressed classes and their income from the dry lands is hardly sufficient to make both ends meet. They are always on the starvation line. The scheme prepared by the society was mainly to help this kind of people and the genesis of the scheme is as under.

Adjacent and close to the lands owned by members is a spread of land to the extent of 24·57 acres served by three wells each provided with oil-engine separately with all equipment like pumpsets, pipes, etc. The wells can supply sufficient water for 12 acres, 6 acres and 6 acres, respectively to supplement the usual irrigation water from the tank. The block of land is owned by an absentee landlord and the society proposes to purchase the lands and the oil-engines with their accessories, and they want Government aid in the shape of a loan on the security of the lands, repayable in 20 years.

The members however have decided in the first instance to take the lands on lease and distribute the lands among 24 members at the rate of one acre each and thus demonstrate in a practical way the soundness of their theory advanced as to how by acquiring the lands from an absentee landlord and distributing them to the actual tillers not only the members would be benefited but they could also help in the Grow More Food Campaign.

The following figures worked out by a retired Deputy Director of Agriculture will go to show how the scheme would benefit the members of the co-operative society. The members who will take on the lands are all field labourers and the production costs will therefore be less by 40 per cent and the income as existing and as proposed are worked on that basis.

	L.B.
Existing income—	
First crop paddy at 1,250 lb. per acre for 24·57 acres	31,000
Second crop paddy at 1,375 lb. per acre for 10 acres	13,750
	44,750
Paddy straw from 35·57 acres at 1,500 lb. per acre	53,250
Proposed income—	
Paddy straw at 2,000 lb. per acre	50,000
Ragi straw, partly green, partly dry, at 3,000 lb. per acre	73,500
Total ..	123,500

A grain yield of over 75,000 lb. and cattle fodder of about 1·25 lakhs of lb. can be obtained in the place of 44,000 lb. and 53,000 lb. respectively. The surplus over the existing yield go to the members for their personal consumption and their livestock. As prices fluctuate according to the supply and demand the returns were not evaluated in terms of money but in terms of commodity.

Negotiations are being carried on between the absentee landlord and the Perungolathur M.R.C.S. in regard to the lease of lands and the Co-operative Department is trying to bring about settlement between them. When the scheme is put into operation a new aspect of the potentiality of co-operative effort will be on trial as a forerunner of such endeavours to be tried on a larger scale.

CHINGLEPUT CIRCLE.—During the month of May 1952 the Collector permitted the issue of licences to the members of 16 jaggery societies in Madurantakam, Chingleput, Kancheepuram and Sriperumbudur Taluks in the Chingleput Circle ; 344 licences were issued to the members of these societies for the manufacture of jaggery ; 115 new members were admitted to these societies during the month under report.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.—The milk supply unions at Gooty and Dharmavaram formed for the benefit of ex-tappers sold 6,918 Madras measure of milk for Rs. 6,233 during the month of May 1952. The Hindupur Firka Cottage Industries Federation formed with the main object of stocking raw materials required for the village artisans purchased raw materials for Rs. 7,720 and issued stocks to the artisans for Rs. 366 during the month.

There were 462 rural credit societies in the district at the end of the month. The percentage of the villages and of the population served by the rural credit societies in the district was 61·63 and 15·03 respectively at the beginning of the month and 61·63 and 15·15 at the end of the month and the targets fixed for the district are 50 and 30 respectively. The number of societies wherein multipurpose

activities were improved rose from 295 to 297 at the end of the month; 1,667 members were benefited by these societies and a sum of Rs. 7,335 was involved in their transactions.

A sum of Rs. 50,200 to rural credit societies and a sum of Rs. 39,500 to marketing societies were disbursed during the month under the cheap loans scheme.

Seventeen Harijans underwent training in the manufacture of palmyra and date products at the training centre run by the Gooty Palmyra and Date Products Workers' Co-operative Society. Nine members attained proficiency in the art. The society purchased raw materials (36 head-loads of leaves) for Rs. 45 and supplied them to the trainees. During the month, the society manufactured 40 date mats. Sales effected during the month mounted to Rs. 11–14–0.

SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICT—Tirukkoyilur Circle.—There were 25 jaggery-manufacturing co-operative societies in Tirukkoyilur Circle. A society was organised at Pannayangal in April 1952 and since registered. There were 890 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 890. During palmyra tapping season 586 licences for the tapping of palmyra sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery have been issued up to the end of May 1952. During the month 2,575 lb. of jaggery were produced, valued at Rs. 643–12–0. There is no difficulty in finding a market for the jaggery produced. The entire quantity has been sold out. There is no accumulation of stock. The ex-tappers have all been provided with employment. There is no agitation for employment.

Milk Supply Co-operative Societies.—The Milk Supply Co-operative Societies at Kaveripakkam, Semmanangur and Tiruvennainallur started for the benefit of the ex-tappers are having normal business. The production and sale of these societies are indicated below :—

Serial number and name of the society.	*Production.*	*Sale.*
1 Kaveripakkam Milk Supply Co-operative Society.	1,714 M.M.	1,714 M.M.
2 Semmanangur Milk Supply Co-operative Society.	605 ,,	605 ,,
3 Tiruvennainallur Milk Co-operative Society.	1,100 ,,	1,077 ,,

The Semmanangur Milk Supply Co-operative Society is maintaining a breeding bull and this is the second year of maintenance ; it rendered 54 services during the year.

Libraries.—The Eraiyur and Thaniyal Grama Sanghams are running libraries. The Velandi Co-operative Society and Alagramam Co-operative Society are also running libraries for the benefit of members and non-members.

Thrift.—The thrift scheme was explained in all the propaganda meetings held during the month and all the people were exhorted to save through hundi boxes. During the month of May 1952 a sum of Rs. 403–9–0 was saved in hundi boxes and a sum of Rs. 7,633–1–10 was saved through thrift savings and securing deposits.

Propaganda.—The Prohibition (Amelioration) propaganda van stationed at Kumbakonam toured in Tirukkoyilur Circle. The propaganda van was taken to 25 places and the films were exhibited. Propaganda was carried on on co-operation, prohibition, rural uplift and adult education in those places. In all the pl.ces people were persuaded to join as members in the local co-operative societies and share the benefit of the movement.

MALABAR DISTRICT—South.—During the month of May four rural credit societies, viz., Kuthanur, Valluvambrem Pulamanthole and Aruyalur multipurpose co-operative societies were registered and six societies were started on work including the milk supply society and fishermen society. In the existing rural credit societies 494 new members were admitted and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 4,036 was collected. During the month three societies were revived and 17 members were newly admitted. The panchayats were also reconstituted in all these societies. They have applied for fresh loans.

The 38 jaggery societies working in the district have a membership of 13,126 including tappers and non-tappers with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 74,147. During the month four tapping licences were newly issued and 82 licences were cancelled. There were also 85 convictions for technical and non-technical offences. During the month 1,091 maunds and 15½ lb. of jaggery to the value of Rs. 4,175–3–0 were produced and 3,273 maunds and 13½ lb. were sold at a cost of Rs. 10,181, leaving a stock balance of 424 maunds and 20 lb. The sales were effected through the societies themselves.

The propaganda van toured in the circle and it visited four societies in Palghat Taluk and handloom goods belonging to the Kondumba Weavers' Co-operative Society worth Rs. 402–14–8 were sold to the public through the agency of these societies, which earned a total commission of Rs. 14–9–5.

MALABAR DISTRICT—North.—During the month of May 1952, Poilur and Manathana Multipurpose Co-operative Credit Societies were started on work; 179 members were admitted on the whole in all the societies and a sum of Rs. 5,829–0–0 was collected as share capital. A sum of Rs. 20–2–0 was collected as thrift savings through hundi boxes. Thrift days were celebrated in two societies. The jaggery production co-operative societies produced 1,775 maunds of jaggery and sold the same for Rs. 14,398. Thrift deposits amounted to Rs. 1,281.

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT—Tiruvannamalai Circle.—During the month of May 1952, the Kalasapakkam Cottage Industries Federation purchased raw materials to the value of Rs. 163 making a total of Rs. 1,321 up to the end of the month, and issued raw materials to nine artisans during the month to the value of Rs. 89, bringing the total to Rs. 923 up to the end of the month.

At the general body meeting of the Wandiwash Stores, it was resolved to spend out of the Common Good Fund Rs. 150 for the purchase of a community cart to distribute drinking water in the villages where the water scarcity was acutely felt.

A sum of Rs. 5,000 was donated by the Kilkidungalur Weavers' Co-operative Society for the construction of a school building from its Common Good Fund.

To improve environmental hygiene in villages, the District Health Officer suggested the purchase of porcelain closets in five or six select centres. These closets will be

stocked and sold to ryots in villages by multipurpose co-operative societies and the Health staff would assist in the construction of latrines (trench system). The Bank has agreed to finance them for the purchase and sale of porcelain closets.

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI DISTRICT—North Circle.—During May 1952 the total thrift collection from 568 hundi boxes in 91 credit societies amounted to Rs. 726-6-0.

Co-operative Activities.—Sixty-six new members were got admitted in the rural credit societies in this circle with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 1,916. During the month loans to the tune of Rs. 57,299 were disbursed to members of rural credit societies. Credit societies undertook multipurpose activities like supply of domestic requirements, agricultural implements and manure for the benefit of members.

Ameliorative Activities.—Five hundred and nine licences have so far been issued to ex-tapper members for drawing sweet juice from palmyra trees for the manufacture of jaggery. Three societies undertook social and recreational activities and 206 members benefitted.

In Cuddalore Circle permission has been given to issue licences to ex-tapper members of jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies to tap only sweet juice for the purpose of manufacturing palm jaggery. Apart from this, with a view to enable the ex-tappers to settle and lead better lives, milk supply societies have been started for their benefit in the villages of Alapakkam, Karaikadu, Milmoongiladi and Porto Novo. Interest-free Government loans are issued to the members for the purchase of milch animals. Two such loans were granted to two ex-tapper members of the Karaikadu Milk Supply Society. Each was given Rs. 200. The members in these milk supply societies supplied 1,661 Madras measures of milk valued at Rs. 1,326 during May 1952. The milk produced by the societies at Alapakkam and Karaikadu is brought to Cuddalore and distributed to consumers through the Cuddalore Milk Supply Union. The milk produced by the other two societies is sold locally.

During the month of May 1952, training in the improved method of manufacturing jaggery was conducted in four centres by the Palm Gur Inspector, and seven ex-tapper-members were trained. Demonstrations explaining the improved processes of jaggery manufacture were conducted and these were witnessed by 53 members of jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies and 37 others interested in the industry. As a result 226 maunds of jaggery valued at Rs. 1,414 were produced by the trainees while 25 maunds of jaggery were produced by the ex-tappers other than the trainees.

In G.O. No. 2726, Health, dated 3rd August 1951, Government approved a proposal for distributing neera (with iron) to anæmia patients as an experimental measure at the Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore. On authorization from the Collector of South Arcot necessary licence and permits were issued to a member of a jaggery manufacturing co-operative society and the Resident Medical Officer of the Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore. In May 1952, the licensee supplied 288 Madras measures of neera to the Hospital.

Rural Welfare Activities

(*Continued from page 28*)

spinning demonstrations and two adult classes were conducted. One co-operative society was organised; 1,100 lb. of pillapesara seeds and 270 lb. of sunhemp seeds were sold to ryots. Four nurseries for tree planting were raised during the month.

In Yerragondapalem firka, 40 manure pits were set right and 12 pits were removed outside the villages. Thirty spinning demonstrations were conducted; 13 compost pits were set right and 12 pits were removed outside the villages; 91 hanks of yarn was spun during the month under review.

Guntur District.—During the month, one soak pit was constructed; four public gatherings were addressed; contour bunding and trenching work were done in 12 acres of land in Jamulapalam village; 28 acres of waste land was brought under cultivation. Twenty-three compost pits were formed and 140 tons of compost manure was carried to fields. Three vertical charkhas, 16 kisan charkhas, one box charkha and 12 taklies were introduced; 115 hanks of yarn was produced.

In Guravareddipalem centre, 28 agricultural implements were supplied to ryots. Twenty compost pits were dug; 50 were rectified and 100 tons of compost manure was prepared; 14 spinning demonstrations were conducted and 25,738 hanks of yarn was produced. The Co-operative Stores at Santhanuthalapad was converted into a multipurpose co-operative society.

Cuddapah District.—Under the Extensive Khadi Scheme, 26 new vertical charkhas were introduced; 44 spinning demonstrations were conducted and 1,040 yards of khadi cloth was produced during the month. Forty-five compost pits were dug; two trench latrines were constructed and 54 tons of manure was produced. Ploughing demonstrations were conducted with the improved types of iron-ploughs, and booklets on scientific methods of agriculture were distributed.

Rural Dispensaries

The Government have passed orders for the conversion of the Rural Dispensary of Modern Medicine at Madagupati in Ramanathapuram District into a Rural Dispensary of Indigenous Medicine.

The Government have sanctioned the opening of subsidised Rural Dispensaries of Indigenous Medicine at Ellamanda and Julakalu villages in Guntur District.

Parasite Breeding Stations Sanctioned

The Government have decided to establish two parasite breeding stations for the biological control of the block-headed caterpillar pest *Nephantis Serinopa* on coconut farms in this State. One station will be located at Razole in the East Godavari District and the other at Ponnani in the Malabar District for a period of two years. The expenditure on these stations will be shared between this Government and the Indian Central Coconut Committee.

This action has been taken at the instance of the Indian Central Coconut Committee.

The Community Development Programme

The Community Development Programme will start approximately 55 projects of rural development located in selected areas in the several States of India.

The central object of a Community Development project is to secure the fullest development of the material and human resources of the area. The attainment of this object in rural areas demands urgent measures for a rapid increase in food and agricultural production. Work will also be undertaken for the promotion of education, for improvement in the health of the people, and for the introduction of new skills and occupations so that the programme as a whole can lift the rural community to higher levels of economic organization and arouse enthusiasm for new knowledge and improved ways of life.

This programme will be the first step in a programme of intensive development which is expected over a period of years to cover the entire country. Increased food production and rural development are given first priority in India's Five-Year Plan for Economic Development. This is also considered necessary to lay the proper foundation for the industrial and general economic development of the country. To accomplish this purpose the Community Development Programme must reach as large a section of India's population as possible. The present programme will be confined to approximately 55 projects which should provide a proper foundation for the expansion of the programme in the future.

Area and Development Blocks

Each project will embrace approximately 300 villages with a population of about 200,000 people and cover a cultivated area of approximately 150,000 acres of land. A project area will be divided into three development blocks, each comprising about 100 villages and a population of about 65,000 people. In areas where a full project is considered feasible, one or two development blocks will be started for the time being. The 55 projects will include approximately 16,500 villages and over a crore of people.

The proposed projects will be of the rural development type including irrigation, fertiliser application, agricultural extension, health measures and education. Six of the 55 projects, however, will be of the composite type including, in addition to the foregoing, activities in small and medium scale industries, township planning and development, etc.

The following rural community development activities will be undertaken in such varying degree within the limits of the available programme funds hereinafter provided, as will be advisable under the circumstances existing in each particular project area and development block.

A. *Agriculture and related matters—*

(1) Reclamation of available virgin and waste land.

(2) Provision of water for agriculture through irrigation canals, tube-wells, surface wells, tanks, lift irrigation from rivers, lakes and pools, etc.

(3) Development of rural electrification.

(4) Provision of commercial fertilisers.

(5) Provision of quality seeds.

(6) Promotion of improved agricultural technique and land utilization.

(7) Provision of veterinary aid.

(8) Provision of technical information, materials, bulletins, etc., on agriculture.

(9) Provision for dissemination of information through slides, films, radio broadcasts, lectures, etc.

(10) Provision of improved agricultural implements.

(11) Promotion of marketing and credit facilities.

(12) Provision of breeding centres for animal husbandry.

(13) Development of inland fisheries.

(14) Promotion of home economics.

(15) Development of fruit and vegetable cultivation.

(16) Provision of soil surveys and information.

(17) Encouragement of the use of natural and compost manures.

(18) Provision of arboriculture including plantation of forests.

B. *Communications—*

(1) Provision of roads.

(2) Encouragement of mechanical road transport services.

(3) Development of animal transport.

C. *Education—*

(1) Provision of compulsory and free education preferably of the Basic type, at the elementary stage.

(2) Provision of high and middle schools.

(3) Provision of adult education and library services.

D. *Health—*

(1) Provision of sanitation (including drainage and disposal of wastes) and public health measures.

(2) Provision for control of malaria and other diseases.

(3) Provision of improved drinking water supplies.

(4) Provision of medical aid for the ailing.

(5) Ante-natal care of expectant mothers and midwifery services.

(6) Provision of generalised public health service and education.

E. *Training—*

(1) Refresher courses for improving the standard of existing artisans.

(2) Training of agriculturists.

(3) Training of extension assistants.

(4) Training of artisans.

(5) Training of supervisors, managerial personnel, health workers and executive officers for projects.

F. *Social Welfare—*

(1) Organization of community entertainment.

(2) Provision of audio-visual aid for instruction and recreation.

(3) Organization of sports activities.

(4) Organization of melas (village fairs).

(5) Organization of co-operative and self-help movement.

G. *Supplementary Employment—*

(1) Encouragement of cottage industries and crafts as main or subsidy occupation.

(2) Encouragement of medium and small scale industries to employ surplus hands for local needs or for export outside project areas.

(3) Encouragement of employment through trade, auxiliary and welfare services.

(4) Construction of brick kilns and sawmills to provide building materials for local needs.

H. *Housing*—

(1) Demonstration and training in improved techniques and designs for rural housing.

(2) Encouragement of improved rural housing on a self-help basis.

Mandi Units

Each development block will have a *mandi* unit. The *mandi* unit will be established as the centre of economic, social and community activity for the villages in the development block and will be conveniently located within the development block in order to fulfil most effectively this function. The *mandi* unit will normally have a dispensary and health centre reaching out to the villagers through mobile units and will be serviced by a doctor, health visitor, midwives and a sanitary inspector. It will also usually have a transport and farm implement and equipment service centre, a centre for marketing and shopping, a storage godown for agricultural produce and a veterinary centre. In addition, there will be established certain recreational and educational facilities. The *mandi* unit will also contain the residential housing and other facilities for the project workers.

It is recognized that in certain areas the development of small and medium scale industries will be warranted by the existing economic environment and will add to the sum total of the community development. Therefore expenditure from the dollar and rupee budgets hereinafter provided in the activities listed in item G (2) above will be made in six agreed projects. Such areas will be provided with some equipment (both for training and for use) for small industries and possibly small thermal power stations.

The Community Development Programme will be supported by a training programme for village level workers and project supervisors. The present plans are to establish a minimum of 30 training centres throughout India, to be associated as far as possible with a Community Development project so that the trainees can be given actual field experience in the villages as part of their training. The training of capable village workers and project supervisors is an essential part of the rural development of India because the success of the Community Development Programme will rest primarily upon the ability of these village level workers to mobilise the enthusiasm and co-operation of the people.

Organization for the Programme

The Community Development Programme will be undertaken by the Government of India and the Governments of the various States of India in co-operation with one another. For this purpose, it is contemplated that the organization for the Conmmunity Development Programme will be as follows :—

(1) *Central Organization.*—Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article IV of the Technical Co-operation Programme Agreement of January 5, 1952, the Government of India has designated a Central Committee to lay down the broad policies and provide the general supervision for the agreed projects and under it an Administrator of Community Projects.

The Administrator will be responsible for planning, directing, and co-ordinating the community projects throughout India under the general supervision of the Central Committee and in consultation with appropriate authorities in the various States. He will be assisted by a highly qualified executive staff to advise him on administration, finance, personnel (training), community planning and other matters, and operating divisions in the fields of (1) agriculture, (2) irrigation, (3) health, (4) education, (5) industries, (6) housing and (7) community facilities. These staffs will work with the State, district and project level workers in the interest of carrying out co-operatively the Community Development Programme.

(2) *State Organization.*—Each State Government has established a State Development Committee or similar body consisting of the Chief Minister and Ministers in charge of departments concerned as he may consider necessary.

The State Development Commissioner or similar official will be responsible for directing community projects within the State and will act as the Secretary to the Committee. He will be responsible for assuring co-ordination of the heads of the various State departments concerned with the Community Development Programme.

Since he may also have the additional responsibility of looking after the general development in the State under the five-year plan, it may be necessary in States where a number of community projects will be in operation to have a Deputy Development Commissioner specifically in charge of community projects. He will enjoy the status of a Collector.

The Development Commissioner or other similar official will be responsible for the direction of the programme in his respective State, and he will be assisted by a suitable operating staff. The Development Commissioner and members of this staff will work in close co-operation with their counterparts at the Centre and at the district and project levels in order to facilitate project operations within the State. Maximum emphasis will be placed upon the selection of the Development Commissioners since the success of the programme depends, to to a large extent, upon their competence.

(3) *District Organization.*—There will be established at the district level, where necessary, a District Development Officer who will be responsible for the Community Development Programme in his district. This officer will have the status of an Additional Collector and will be responsible for the execution of the community projects as well as the general development in the district. He will operate under the direction of the State Development Board consisting of the officers of the various departments concerned with Community Development with the Collector as Chairman and the District Development Officer as Executive Secretary.

(4) *Project Organization.*—Each individual project unit (consisting of a full project or one or more development blocks where there is not a full project) within the district will be in charge of a Project Executive Officer who

will be responsible for the Community Programme in the unit area. The Project Executive Officer will operate, as the case may be, under the direction of the District Development Officer or the State Development Commissioner. In the selection of the Project Executive Officers, special regard will be paid to experience, general outlook, understanding of the needs and methods of Community Development, and capacity for leadership as well as ability to secure both official and non-official co-operation,

In addition, there will be a Project Advisory Committee which might include, besides the principal officials concerned, leading public workers, a few representative agriculturists, the Chairman of the District Board, local representatives in the Parliament and State Legislatures, etc. The Executive Officer in charge of the project will serve as Secretary of the Advisory Committee.

Each Project Executive Officer in charge of a full project will have on his staff approximately 125 supervisors and village workers who will be responsible for the successful operation of all activities at the project level. Project Executive Officers in charge of lesser units will have proportionate staffs.

The above organizational pattern will be adapted to suit local conditions and needs as may be deemed necessary by the Administrator and the respective State Governments.

Financing the Programme

(*a*) The total estimated joint cost of the Community Development Programme is $8,671,000 and the Government of India agrees to contribute Rs. 34,38,34,000 from Fund B or other source. It is agreed that the rupees deposited in Fund B for the prosecution of further projects of economic development under Operational Agreement Nos. 1 and 2, estimated at Rs. 4,77,40,000, will form part of the rupees contributed by the Government of India to the financing of this programme. The funds so made available shall be allocated and spent in accordance with an agreed budget estimated as follows :—

	Dollar Expenditure.	*Rupee Expenditure.*
1 Equipment, construction and supplies for basic project villages.	4,042,000	23,78,75,000
(*a*) Irrigation canals, surface wells and tanks including earth-moving equipment.	2,310,000	10,03,75,000
(*b*) Drinking water-supply.	..	2,20,00,000
(*c*) Drainage	..	55,00,000
(*d*) Roads, including earth-moving.	1,386,000	5,6650,000
(*e*) Education	..	3,85,00,000
(*f*) Reclamation of cultivable waste land including earth-moving equipment.	346,000	1,48,50,000
2 Rural arts, crafts and industries.	289,000	2,33,75,000
3 Animal Husbandry ..	..	14,30,000
4 Indian personnel—125 per project of which 22 are supervisory personnel and 103 are field workers in agriculture, education, health, and other community development activities.	..	3,15,70,000
5 Equipment for personnel ..	1,870,000	18,33,000
(*a*) Transport—495 jeeps, nine per project.	1,485,000	..
(*b*) Demonstration equipment and supplies for 5,500 Indian personnel ; Tools implements.seeds, books, health supplies, etc., total needed is about $140 per worker of which half is available now in India.	385,000	18,33,000
6 Equipment, construction and supplies for basic project *mandi* centres (one per development block).	1,273,000	2,03,23,000
(*a*) Housing for project staff.	..	1,10,00,000
(*b*) Dispensaries and health units.	173,000	41,25,000
(*c*) Agricultural extension service sub-headquarters.	..	15,68,000
(*d*) Farm implement and equipment centres.	1,100,000	8,25,000
(*e*) Marketing centres and storage godowns.	..	24,75,000
(*f*) Community centre.	..	3,30,000
7 Additional equipment and supplies.	1,128,000	2,22,30,000
8 Contingencies	69,000	51,98,000
9 *U.S. Techinical Personnel*—Salaries, travel to India and other administrative costs.	(To be provided from sources other than Fund A.)	
10 *Fertilizer.*—For distribution or sale to farmers to increase food and agricultural production.	(To be allocated from Fertiliser Import Project—Operational Agreement No. 2.)	
11 *Steel.*—For village blacksmith shops for production of farm tools and implements.	(To be allocated from Steel Import Project—Operational Agreement No. 2.)	
12 *Tube-wells.*—Approximately 750 (or 150 per project in five projects).	(To be allocated from Ground Water Irrigation Project—Operational Agreement No. 6.)	
Total ..	$ 8,671,000	Rs. 34,38,34,000

Voluntary Service for Community's Welfare

Citizens all over the country will soon be provided with a forum for rendering service to the country through a broad-based, non-political, voluntary social service agency, the establishment of which has been proposed in the near future by the Planning Commission. Named the " Bharat Sevak Samaj ", the membership of this body will be open to all adults irrespective of caste, creed, sex, religion and party affiliations. Only those who profess faith in violent or subversive activities or communal hatred cannot have any place in this organization.

Details of the organization are given in a pamphlet just published by the Planning Commission with a foreword from the Prime Minister, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru. The functions of the Samaj, the Prime Minister says, would be to approach the people " in humility of spirit and with the intense desire to bring about, with our common labour, that joint effort which can shake and break up a mountain of inertia."

The Genesis

The idea of Bharat Sevak Samaj has its genesis in the Draft Outline of the Five-Year Plan which emphasises the need for willing, intelligent and effective public co-operation if the Plan is to succeed. The concept of planning, the Commission observes in the Draft Outline, has been associated largely with the totalitarian regime in which a group has gathered in its hands all the power to control and regiment the life of the community and to command and direct its material and resources. In a democracy this unified direction is provided by a common social outlook which interprets progress in terms of social justice and the economic and social well-being of the masses. " The fulfilment of a plan of economic development " the Commission observes, " rests very much on the capacity of the community to transmute this common social outlook and the deep aspirations of the people for progress into a living force and its use for constructive purposes." To provide an organised body through which this living force could be canalised into constructive effort, the Commission had suggested the setting up of a volunteer body under the name of the Bharat Seva Sangh. The Bharat Sevak Samaj is a development of that idea in more concrete shape.

Inadequacy of Government Resources

Sri Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Planning and River Valley Schemes, in several notes which form part of the pamphlet, explains the fundamental objectives of the proposed Samaj, its functions, its relationship with the existing volunteer organisations in the country and with the State.

Referring to the need for such an organization, Sri Nanda says that to give the people a standard of living which may satisfy the most modest requirements of health and efficiency, the national income may have to be more than three times than the present level in the next few years. The resources of the Government both at the Centre and in the States, on the other hand, are so meagre that any investment programme based on them could yield relatively only a very small annual increment in the national income and it would not be feasible for years to meet even a fraction of the demand in respect of the range of the services which a Welfare State is called upon to perform. While the Government's resources are thus limited there is, Sri Nanda says, the untapped resources and the spare energy of the nation which if properly canalised can help very substantially towards supplementing Government's efforts. The task before the Nation, is, therefore, to organise the utilization of these resources in such a manner that the community gains by the collective endeavour of the people themselves.

" Break Mountain of Inertia "

" We have talked about planning for a long time and we have produced a draft five-year plan. That plan will presumably be finalised in the course of some weeks. Every one recognises now the necessity for planning and tries to utilise our resources to the best advantage.

" We can, to some extent, measure our resources, or most of them. But it is very difficult to measure the biggest of these resources that we have, that is, manpower, and that psychology which makes people work for great ends. Unless we utilise this manpower and unless we can produce that temper in our people which laughs at difficulties and get things done, sometimes in spite of facts, we cannot achieve anything really big.

" Therefore we have to look to our people, go to them, talk and discuss with them and work with them. We must function as comrades in a common task, as partners in a joint undertaking. We may have to teach them something, but we have much to learn from them also. So we should go to them not with the pride of knowledge but in humility of spirit and with the intense desire to bring about, with our common labour, that joint effort which can shake and break up a mountain of inertia.

" The proposal to start an organization, to be called the Bharat Sevak Samaj, has this in view. It is an ambitious task and we want men and women with high ambition for it—not the ambition for the little and personal things of life but the ambition to serve great causes forgetting oneself, and achieve great ends.

" This is not a political organization, even though I, a politician, commend it. It is meant for every able-bodied man and woman, whatever his or her views might be on other topics."

—*Jawaharlal Nehru*

Age-long Inertia

Analysing the peoples' attitude towards the Government, Sri Nanda says that there is among the active elements of society a largely negative, non-co-operative and destructive mood, while among the masses their age-long ignorance and inertia prevail. This 'social stalemate', as he calls it, has got to be cleared and that can be done if the peoples' energy is directed towards constructive activities through organised and willing effort. Already, useful work by voluntary organizations in various parts of the country are being done. With the formation of an all-India body, with the avowed objective of enlisting peoples' voluntary effort for the community's welfare, "the little deeds and toil of obscure individuals and groups in all parts of the country will rise in significance and yield far greater satisfaction if they become events in a national drive and parts of an inspiring picture of national reconstruction."

The proposed organization will be a non-political body and will not be tied to the Party in power. But since whatever it can accomplish should strengthen the foundations of the State and further the fulfilment of its obligations to the community, the organization, Sri Nanda says, "will be found worthy of the fullest recognition and support by the Union as well as by the State Governments." It may eventually become for them an important contact and channel of communication with voluntary agencies. While to that extent its association with the State is justified, Sri Nanda warns: "It should not lean on the State, and must be prepared to collect its sinews of action from the people whose confidence it will have to earn."

Food Problem—Highest Priority

The range of activities of the Samaj will no doubt comprehend all aspects of community welfare. But initially, Sri Nanda says, it will not be wise to attempt too much or diffuse energy in too many directions. Only urgent tasks may be taken in the earlier stage and, in view of its importance to the community, the food problem must be given the highest priority. Other activities may include organization of public opinion against anti-social practices, formation of community centres, organising the youth for the service of the community, improvement of relations between the people and the Government by striving for quicker redress of public grievances, social education, prevention of disease, anti-malarial campaign, etc.

Decentralisation of Functions

Utmost decentralisation will be a cardinal feature of the work of the Samaj, observes Sri Nanda. The basic unit will be the village and the subsequent tiers will be identical with the administrative divisions in the country. The Samaj will offer a general scheme and framework into which spontaneous activity springing up all over the country may fit itself. "No regional unit," Sri Nanda says, "need wait direction to form a branch. The aid and impulse from the Central and Provincial organizations may proceed side by side."

The activities of the Samaj have to be carried out mainly by free services of the members of the Samaj. A small nucleus of the workers may, however, be paid as wholetime workers which would mainly be in the interest of stable administration and continuity of service. This, apart from the costs incurred on specific projects, will entail a certain scale of expenditure, and funds for this purpose will have to be collected from private and public sources.

Membership

According to the Draft Constitution of the Samaj, any person who has attained the age of 18 may become a member of this body if he agrees to volunteer his service as a part-time or a wholetime worker for a period which may normally be five years and shall not be less than 12 months. The other types of members will be founder members, honorary members, life members and associate members. Organizations engaged in social welfare or constructive work which agree to associate themselves with the work of the Samaj may also be admitted as members.

No person or organization shall be admitted as or continue to maintain a member who engages or professes faith in violent or subversive activities or communal hatred or has connection with any organization countenancing such activities.

Any member who uses or attempts to use the platform or organization of the Samaj for political advantage or personal gain shall be removed from the list of members.

The functions of the Samaj shall be discharged at the top level by a Central Board elected by a General Council which will consist of 75 members elected by the founder-members, the affiliated organizations and the other members. The Central Board will consist of 12 persons and shall lay down the rules of business for the efficient conduct of the affairs of the Samaj and all its branches and define the responsibilities and powers of the office-bearers.

Principles of Work

The organization and the activities of the Samaj shall conform to the following principles :—

(i) A common platform for the service of the nation will be provided irrespective of caste, creed, or political belief or affiliation.

(ii) Any use of the organization or its activities for political or communal purposes will be strictly forbidden.

(iii) The principle of decentralisation will be applied to the utmost extent, the basic unit for the purpose of administration being a village or a compact locality in a town. Care will be taken to secure full play for the initiative and enthusiasm of the people in each local area. Control and direction of the work of the branches will be exercised only for the purpose of co-ordination, efficiency and economy.

(iv) Every endeavour will be made to secure the fullest co-ordination and collaboration between the Samaj and the official or non-official agencies working in the same field.

(v) Funds required for activities in any particular area will be collected in that area, as far as possible.

(vi) The principle of co-operation will be applied and developed as fully as possible in the activities organised by the Samaj. Community centres will be established wherever possible and organizations of producers as well as consumers will be encouraged to give expression to this principle in every aspect of group life.

Potentialities of the Silk Industry

By Sri A. T. JANAKIRAMAN, Sericultural Expert, Kollegal.

" *Without industries no country can ever hope to attain prosperity or a high stage of civilization. Without industries, it cannot acquire the wealth which is necessary to provide the various social amenities such as decent housing, medical relief, education, etc. Until India is fully industrialized, there is no hope of economic salvation and I am inclined to believe also of its political salvation.*"

—Ardeshir Dalal

The importance of cottage industries in the socio-economic set-up of India cannot be gainsaid. The establishment of cottage industries on sound, rational and scientific lines, embodying the cardinal principle of " employment to number " and pregnant with possibilities of all-round success, is of paramount importance and perpetual consequence in the matter of amelioration of the economic conditions of the teeming millions. The silk industry in India is a national asset and is endowed with great possibilities of occupying an important place in the rural economy.

It is a well-known fact that the silk industry is a cottage industry ' par excellence ' which draws its support from the socio-economic set-up, which is an integral part of village life and which provides profitable employment to agriculturists during their agricultural off-seasons. The origin of this industry is lost in antiquity; nevertheless, it has a history and a romance, a history which takes us back to the days of Tippu Sultan of Mysore and a romance which thrills us with joy to imagine the apparently baffling idea of a tiny silkworm building up a mighty industry. Geographical and historical records establish that the silk industry in the Madras State has had a parallel growth with Mysore on account of the geographical contiguity.

The industry is nearly two centuries old in both Madras and Mysore. Kollegal Taluk in Coimbatore District is the main area where the industry is extensively practised as a cottage industry, but in recent years, it has spread to other places in the State like Hosur Taluk in Salem District, Palmaner, Madanapalle and Kuppam and Punganur Zamins in Chittoor District, Coonoor Taluk in the Nilgiris District and Talavadi area in Gobichettipalayam Taluk. Experimental silk farms have been opened in congenial tracts in the Ceded and Northern Districts of the State also where the results of rearing are encouraging for the successful introduction of the industry in these districts. In fact, already nucleus areas of mulberry plantations have been started by private agriculturists in the new areas.

The silk industry is rightly regarded as the ' Queen of Textile Industries.' Its products are useful not only for dress and artistic purposes, but also for surgical and scientific purposes. The silk industry has faced many a crisis bordering almost to extinction and despite all these it has survived, which only reflects the vast potentiality and invulnerable vitality of the industry. The Second World War gave a good fillip to the industry. Silk goods found large markets of consumption and reached even the trenches in the form of cartridge bags. During the Second World War, India was the only major silk producing centre on the Allied side and as such, the silk industry was given a good impetus and the industry in turn rose to the occasion. In aerial warfare, silk was used in the manufacture of balloons and parachutes. Indeed, ' the silk industry represents the high-water mark of technical attainment among textile industry '. It is really ' a thing of beauty ' which ' is a joy for ever '.

Constitution of the Industry

The sericultural industry in India is an important national asset with strongly marked characteristics. It consists of two well-defined sections :—

(1) The production of cocoons.

(2) The production of raw silk including the utilization of by-products.

While the first part is essentially a cottage industry, subsidiary to agriculture, the second is a factory industry utilising the collected output of the first. Silkworm rearing is a home occupation and though silk reeling is done in houses on a small scale with primitive appliances, still the system of reeling is based on modern scientific lines, on a reorganised basis, which makes for utilization of a major portion of cocoons in filatures, so that there may be ever-increasing and permanent flow of silk good in reeling and high in quality. Thus there is a division of work and in the co-ordination and blending of the two in proper proportions lies the prosperity of the industry.

The first section which forms the fundamental basis of the industry, which deals with the cultivation of mulberry up to the production of cocoons, is highly amenable to the laws of psychology. It has definite characteristics and is extremely sensitive. It would be no exaggeration to call it an industry based on ' domestic hopes and fears '—dependent almost wholly on the home's ability and inclination to work and involving no great commitment by way of capital. If the return from work seems no longer worthwhile or the home suffers losses, it gives up rearing silkworm and the field is cleared of mulberry and cultivated with other crops. The predominance of the human factor which makes the industry so sensitive also invests it with a special human value, making it an efficient instrument of welfare and employment.

Various Branches

(1) *Mulberry*.—Mulberry is the foundation of the sericultural industry and on the whole accounts for more than 50 per cent of the expenditure in sericulture. The mulberry leaf, which forms the staple food of the silkworm, is the pivot upon which the whole industry revolves. The silkworms reared in Madras State are multivoltine in character and on an average six crops of cocoons are raised with the leaves available in the rainfed mulberry garden. Mulberry is cultivated as a bush with the local variety. On an average it costs Rs. 200 to establish one acre of mulberry and Rs. 150 in maintaining it per year subsequently. The yield per acre per year is about 3,750 lb. of leaves in respect of rainfed garden. But if

irrigation facilities are provided, the yield of leaf per unit could be easily doubled or trebled by judicious and scientific cultural operations and the leaves utilized for seven to eight rearing crops in a year. Ordinarily a mulberry garden once established lasts for 10—15 years and thus mulberry can be appropriately called a perennial crop.

In order to intensify mulberry cultivation, the Government of Madras have in vogue the Mulberry Expansion Scheme according to which certain concessions as remission of assessment and granting of loans are granted. This had the desirable effect and in fact, the mulberry acreage has appreciably increased and the area under mulberry in 1950-51 is nearly three times that in 1941-42. The concessions should be continued and improved methods of cultivation and cultural operations should be introduced. For this purpose a separate Research Section is functioning and it is hoped that very soon grafting work will be undertaken on a large scale. Irrigation facilities should be given wherever possible so that there may be an increased production of mulberry leaves which in turn will increase the production of cocoons.

(2) *Production of Cocoons.*—The next link in the chain of the industry is the production of cocoons which fundamentally depends upon disease-free eggs. There are grainages managed by the Government of Madras for the supply of disease-free eggs which forms the sheet-anchor of the industry. In addition to the Government Grainages, there are Aided Grainages, run under the supervision and management of the Industries Department to augment the supply of disease-free layings. By careful handling, the rearer is assured of at least 85 per cent success. The cost of production of one pound of cocoons is also low. The following statement shows the cost of production of one pound of cocoons :—

	RS.	A.	P.
1. Cost of 100 disease-free layings (Cross breed).	4	0	0
2. Cost of leaves used—1,135 lb. at Rs. 4 per 80 lb.	56	12	0
3. Labour charges in packing	34	0	0
4. Labour charges in rearing	18	0	0
5. Cost of appliances and kerosene oil ..	4	0	0
Total ..	116	12	0

	LB.
Production of cocoons in lb.	80

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of production of 1 lb. of cocoons ..	1	7	0
Selling price of cocoons (June 1951) ..	2	0	0
Net income over the cost of production per lb.	0	8	9

N.B.—The Indian Tariff Board have fixed Re. 1-4-0 a lb. as economic price for cocoons, but owing to serious shortage of silk, the prices of cocoons have gone high.

It may be noted that the above cost of production has been calculated taking into consideration the cost involved in family labour for which there is no cash payment. Barring the two items of expenditure, viz., mulberry leaves and family labour, the cost of production is very small (bordering almost to nothing) and hence income to the rearer is more, thus establishing its economic importance in rural life.

State Aid to Industries

The Government have been granting financial aid under the provisions of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act to new and nascent industries. The Government have also sponsored in 1949 the establishment of the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation Limited, with a share capital of Rs. 2 crores, for the purpose of giving financial aid to medium and large-scale industries. The Government have decided that aid under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act should be restricted to a maximum of Rs. 50,000 in each case. Applications for loans in excess of Rs. 50,000 may be sent to the Secretary of the Madras Industrial Investment Corporation Limited, Madras-14.

(3) *Reeling.*—The next step after the production of cocoons is reeling. It is in fact that index by which the industry will be judged by the world at large. Reeling is the process which harnesses the natural excellence which makes the silk the 'Queen of Textiles', to the highest requirements of the art of the weaver. It is easily seen that this process requires a careful and perfected technique. But in India, the bulk of the production is of charkha grade. Therefore, a gradual changeover from charkha establishments to filatures is essential. There can be no dispute in saying that filature silk is higher in all respects than to charkha silk.

The harnessing of all scientific knowledge and modern development in the various branches of manufacture of silk and application of these on rational lines will go a long way to improve the quality of raw silk. The charkha establishments which are based upon crude methods of reeling should be removed by a process of evolution, that is, by a gradual and judicious amalgamation and transformation of two or three charkha establishments in one place to a miniature filature where up-to-date machinery should be set up and a continuous flow of cocoons at reasonable rates should be assured.

The potentialities of gradual changeover from charkhas to filatures should be further supplemented by the establishment of testing houses at important centres to grade and fix the price of silk from time to time. For this purpose, it will not be out of place here to remark that Filature Advisory Committees should be set up on an all-India basis, which will review the position of the filature industry from time to time. The continuous flow of cocoons into the filatures at reasonable and economic rate is possible only if a stabilising system is introduced at which the prices will be levelled to moderate scales.

Twisting, Winding and Weaving.—An important item after reeling is the twisting of silk which gives it strength and elasticity. In general, it may be remarked that the potentialities and scope for future development of the twisting industry are very great since there are only a few

twisting mills in Madras. As at present calculated, the demand for silk in India is eight million pounds, as against an actual production of 2·2 million pounds. Ordinarily one spindle working for eight hours can twist one ounce of organ zinc and 3 oz. of tram. So if the raw silk produced in India alone is to be twisted, basing on the above calculation we require at least 35 million spindles. It is easily seen that when India is able to be self-sufficient, i.e., when the production is eight million pounds, we require at least 140 million spindles. Therefore, in order that all the silk may be twisted more twisting factories have to be established in important silk centres, in particular at Kollegal Taluk in Coimbatore District. The twisting factories may be established along with weaving factories in important weaving centres, e.g., Kumbakonam, Gudiyatham, Mayuram, Salem and Kancheepuram.

Marketing.—Marketing of silk forms the last link in the chain of organization. Unfortunately, there is no proper organization for marketing of silk. The present marketing system is very defective as the silk reelers always run the risk of being exploited by the silk merchants, particularly when the market becomes dull. The Government, having realised the need for constitution of cocoon markets for the benefit of rearers and the reelers for efficient conduct of transactions and prompt payment of cash on the spot, have started Government Cocoon Markets in important sericultural centres. Marketing of raw silk is another factor which deserves attention. Kollegal and Bangalore are important silk trading centres. Besides these places, Kancheepuram, Kumbakonam, Salem, etc., are also silk business centres. Efforts are being made to organise sales of charkha silk on a co-operative basis so that the interests of the reelers may not suffer.

Problem of Resuscitation

A close examination of the cottage industries in India should at once lead to the conclusion that the problem of resuscitation must be pre-eminently provincial. The development of any cottage industry in a particular State depends upon the environments and peculiarities of the State concerned. Mr. Chatterton (of the School of Arts and College of Engineering, Madras) in 1901, submitted a Memorandum to state what could be done by the Government of India to revive indigenous industries. He wrote of the Indian artisan: "He is to remain a hand-worker but his rude hereditary skill is to be trained and developed. He is to strive no longer to compete with machinery but his energies are to be directed into channels where machinery is of little use; and he is to be supplied with good tools and taught new methods of production. He is to be supplied with the best raw materials purchased in the cheapest market. In fact, instead of leaving him severely alone, the highest technical skill and keenest commercial intelligence are to be devoted and a prosperous and flourishing artisan community established."

It is not out of place here to say that the silk industry offers great potentialities and scope and the agricultural populations are greatly benefited by it, though they are not wholly depending upon it. A Central Silk Board has been constituted by the Government of India to keep a watch over the sericultural industry and to take such steps as are necessary to improve the industry on all lines. There is no doubt that the Government are bestowing their keenest attention to improve the industry, especially because it cannot be disputed that the attention will go on increasing as the realization of the need for the cottage industries increases and the demand from the villagers grows in volume and force.

The experience of other countries, especially those in which the rural people take to the cottage industries, individually or collectively, should be taken full advantage of. "Improvements in machinery and materials should be introduced and improved methods should be greedily imbibed. The maladjustment should be remedied and a new era inaugurated, replacing poverty by prosperity in the New India."

Payment of Sugarcane Prices by Factories

With a view to relieve the financial burden said to be experienced by the sugar factories in this State due to the accumulation of sugar stocks and other causes, the Government of India authorised the factories in April 1952 to pay sugarcane growers the minimum cane price of Rs. 1–12–0 per maund in two instalments, viz., Re. 1 per maund on delivery of cane and the balance of 12 annas before October 31, 1952. Some factories are alleged to have misunderstood or misinterpreted the order and to have deferred payment in respect of cane delivered to them *before* the date of the order also, viz. April 19, 1952.

Such action on the part of factories is contrary to the order and is causing hardship to the cane growers. The Government therefore wish to make it clear that the cane price in respect of all cane delivered to sugar factories before 19th April 1952 should be paid for in full and deferred payment of part of the price made only in respect of any cane delivered to factories on or after April 19, 1952. The sugar factories in this State are, therefore advised to pay up in full to the growers immediately the entire cost of the cane purchased by them up to April 18, 1952 (inclusive), if this has not already been done.

Broadcasts for Schools

(*Continued from page* 22)

have four movements and the exercises are repeated for either 16 or 32 counts. When the pupils have learnt the movements the teacher starts the exercise in time with the music. The music for these exercises is specially written with pronounced rhythm. The class teacher can then see that his class do the exercise to coincide with the beat of musical tunes. This I am sure is a more interesting way of learning drill and at the same time gives pupils an idea of musical time.

All these broadcasts are planned in accordance with the syllabus of the State Government and I am sure they will prove to be of great help to teachers. I wish the staff and students all over the State, a good and useful listening, during the current term. *Jai Hind!*

(*By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.*)

South Arcot Lignite

By DR. C. V. S. RATNAM, PH.D., Member, Expert Committee, Lignite Investigation

Part I—Nature

Lignite is a member of the coal family. Coal is a familiar commodity to most of us. It is used as fuel in the locomotives, factories, restaurants, power stations and even in domestic service. The non-availability of coal in Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Mysore States has been an important factor in the non-existence of iron and steel industry in the South, in spite of large and proved iron ore resources and the generally slow industrialization of South India. The exploitation of the newly discovered lignite deposits of South Arcot in Madras State would go a long way to meet this shortage of coal for South India industries.

Lignite has been almost unknown among Indian fuels and only the discovery of large deposits in South Arcot (2,000 million tons has been proved so far) and the great interest shown by the Government of Madras and the Government of India in this project made this commodity somewhat known in our State albeit only through Press statements thus far. Over 95 per cent of the people in our State have not seen this material until now and the railway freight schedule does not have this commodity listed in it. Hitherto, the main varieties of coal available and used in India have been bituminous coals.

The Origin of Coal

The popular notion that coal wherever it is obtained is the same is not true. The American Society for Testing of Materials (A.S.T.M.) in its classification of coals by rank described 13 varieties of coal. This classification is based mainly on the heating value and cooking properties of coal. Lignite comes almost at the bottom in this classification. Pound for pound lignite gives less heat than most other coals.

Coal is defined as " a compact stratified mass of metamorphosed plants which have in part suffered arrested decay to varying degrees of completeness."

The definition describes the origin of coal. All people now agree that coal is formed from plant materials. The plants went through two stages of change before coal was formed from them. During the first stage called *biochemical stage* the plant material was attacked by bacteria

RAILWAY FUEL ECONOMY: A meeting of the Railway Fuel Economy Enquiry Committee was held recently at the Committee Room, Fort St. George, when discussions were held with officials of the Development and Public Works Departments of the Government of Madras.

resulting in a peat bog. In the latter stage called *dynamo chemical change*, these peat bogs were covered by layers of earth, thus subjecting the vegetable material to pressure and temperature. Depending upon the change undergone by the plant material during the first bio-chemical stage and the extent of the changes brought about by pressure, temperature and the age of formation, various kinds of coal, from anthracities to brown coal were formed.

Definition of Lignite

Lignite according to A.S.T.M. classification is defined as below. Lignite is non-cooking and when exposed to air, it disintegrates and falls into small pieces. When obtained from the mine, it is consolidated. Its heating value is less than 8,300 B.T.U. per pound. This is on a mined basis without taking into consideration the ash content. B.T.U. is a heating unit which will raise the temperature of one pound of water through one degree Fahrenheit.

The above definition of lignite describes briefly the nature and handling properties of lignite. The one main difference between bituminous coal and lignite is that the former gives coke when heated out of contact with air. Lignite when heated out of contact with air or carbonized gives fine char and no large blocks of coke. Another important difference is in weathering properties. Lignite contains relatively large amount of water, when mined. Although lignite exists as consolidated hard blocks when mined, it will rapidly disintegrate into small pieces on its exposure to air. Thus the handling properties of lignite are not as satisfactory as those of bituminous coal.

Deposits in South

The South Arcot lignite contains from 35 to 45 cent moisture. It exists as large blocks in the ground but when mined and exposed to air, rapidly disintegrates into small pieces losing a large part of its moisture in the process. The South Arcot lignite does not coke when carbonized. The ash content of South Arcot lignite is comparatively low, around five per cent, and its heating value is about the same as those of lignites obtained in other countries. The samples of this lignite analysed so far contain relatively large amount of wax useful in a variety of industries.

There is a popular misconception that lignite is a "low grade coal" and hence not very useful. Nothing can be further from truth. The technology of fuels is now so advanced that for practical purposes one can substitute lignite for all those uses where bituminous coal is required. It is well known that Germany depends on its "brown coal" or "lignite" deposits for carrying on a number of its industries. Germany utilises brown coal for generating electricity, for making gas for domestic and industrial purposes, for manufacturing petrol, for the manufacture of briquets, for domestic and industrial use and as a raw material for a number of chemical industries. Australia makes use of its huge lignite resources very much in the same way. So also in some parts of U.S.A. The State of North Dakota has estimated resources of 600,000 million tons of lignite. Many families use it for domestic heating. Recently, a laboratory costing 37 lakhs of rupees was opened in Grand Forks by the United States Bureau of Mines to investigate all phases of lignite production and utilization.

Plans for Utilization

Any plan for the utilization of South Arcot lignite must take into consideration the following :—(1) There is a coal shortage in South India. This prevents the full working and expansion of South Indian industry. (2) There is no iron and steel industry in Madras State in spite of its large proved iron ore reserves. (3) A large amount of charcoal and firewood are being used for bus transport and for domestic purposes. (4) Adequate power supply is essential for general betterment of the community.

Taking into consideration the above factors, the South Arcot lignite can be utilised for the following :—

(1) A good portion of this lignite can be straightaway used for the production of electricity both at the mine site or away from it.

(2) A part of the lignite can be carbonized and briquetted for utilization in existing boilers, industries, bus transportation and for domestic purposes.

(3) The lignite can be used for reducing iron ores and for making iron and steel. It will be possible to establish an iron and steel industry in Madras State.

(4) Other uses to which South Arcot lignite can be put are gasification and manufacture of hydrogen, ammonia and ammonium sulphate, methyl alcohol, Montan-wax, active carbon, carbon for electrodes, synthetic petrol, etc. For utilisation of lignites for some of these purposes active laboratory and economic investigation would be necessary.

The South Arcot lignite deposits are considerable (2,000 million tons). They are the only coal deposits of any consequence in South India until now. Technology is sufficiently developed to make lignite a most useful material in a large number of ways. The Government are giving this project their best consideration and our State stands to benefit greatly from these mines.

(To be continued)

Fee Concessions

The Government have directed that the following communities be granted fee concession under Rule 192 of the Madras Educational Rules as they are found to be equivalent of "Vanniyakula Kshatriya" which is included in the list of Backward Classes.

1. Vanniya or Vanniyar or Vanniar ; 2. Padayachi ; 3. Gounder ; 4. Kander or Vannia Gounder ; 5 Vannia Kander (other than Vellala Gounder).

They have also directed that the following communities of the handloom weavers be granted fee concessions under Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules, as they are found to be equivalents of Saliyan which is included in the list of Backward Classes :—

1. Padmasali ; 2. Pattusali ; 3. Thogata ; 4. Karnibhaktula ; 5. Senapathulu ; 6. Sali, 7. Sale ; 8. Karikalabhaktulu.

Licensing of Cinemas

The Government have directed that a touring cinema in any place should not be allowed within a distance of (*a*) one mile of the nearest permanent cinema located in its adjacent village, panchayat or town having a population of less than 50,000 ; or (*b*) half a mile of the nearest permanent cinema located in its adjacent town having a population of 50,000 and over.

Veterinary Research

By Sri V. R. RAJAGOPALAN, Director of Animal Husbandry

Research in any branch of learning has as its ultimate objective improvement of the lot of humanity. In a general way, we may say that it aims at providing more and better amentities of life, new and more efficient machines and drugs, improved varieties of plants or improved breeds of livestock. It is the yardstick by which all human progress has been measured. Discoveries leading from research in physical science seek to change our environment, whereas discoveries in biological sciences often produce profound changes in our way of life. Veterinary Science as a branch of biological science, deals with the control of animal diseases and with problems relating to animal production.

The latter aspect of Veterinary Science, namely, that connected with increased production from animal sources by way of milk, meat and eggs, has a bearing on nutrition of the people. This makes Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry to contribute directly towards human health and welfare. Yet from another angle, Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry support agricultural production by supplying animal labour which is the chief motive power behind all agricultural operations and farmyard manure which is even now the chief source of fertiliser for the land.

In this connection, a few basic facts connected with livestock production in India may be significant. By providing transport for agricultural produce, it is estimated that cattle contribute annually about 160 crores of rupees; by way of cattle labour for agriculture, about 300–400 crores of rupees. Livestock contribute annually about 1,000 crores of rupees in the form of manure; about 480 million maunds of milk and milk products valued at 750 crores, hides and skin at about 40 crores and wool at three crores of rupees annually. The number of eggs produced yearly is over 300 crores which is estimated to cost about 30 crores of rupees. These figures show the importance of livestock in the economy of the nation and also how essential is research in problems relating to their health and production.

Eradicating Cattle Diseases

Veterinary Research aims at controlling, if possible even eradicating, major diseases of cattle and at increasing production from animal sources. These aspects are under investigation by specially trained scientists, working often as a team at Veterinary Research Institutes and in Veterinary colleges in various parts of India. The money spent for this purpose is about a crore annually. This amount, however, considering the size of the country and its problems, should be looked upon as a very low premium we are paying for the health and well-being of our livestock and human population.

There are quite a few major contagious diseases in India which, in spite of vast amount of research done in the past are still taking a heavy toll of animal lives. Among these Rinderpest, commonly called cattle plague, still claims about 1–2 lakhs of cattle every year. Besides this, Haemorrhagic Septicaemia, Black Quarter, Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax and parasitic diseases also claim a large number of victims every year. On a moderate scale, the annual loss of life among livestock through disease alone may be put at one million heads and a much greater number is incapacitated totally for a considerable period of the year. Research has helped, however, in checking these major animal scourges, but still much remains to be done by way of effectively bringing to the scene of outbreak modern methods of prevention and treatment of diseases.

Potent Vaccines Evolved

Intensive research in animal diseases for over 60 years has removed from the mind of the public the dread associated with some of them. Mention in this connection may be made of Rinderpest. From the reports of the Cattle Plague Commission published in 1871, one learns of the enormous deaths of cattle and buffaloes caused in India by periodical visitations of this disease. But thanks are due to the intensive and continuous research done since 1890, which has helped in the evolving of potent vaccines to control and minimise the mortality from this disease. At the present moment, plans are ahead to eradicate this disease from India by vaccination of cattle by improved methods. In the case of Haemorrhagic Septicaemia, Black Quarter and Anthrax, research work has resulted in evolving effective preventive vaccines.

While Veterinary Research has been making great progress abroad Indian scientists have also been contributing their discoveries in treatment and control of diseases in India. The Madras Veterinary College, a premier institution, has been doing valuable work in this connection. A few diseases of local importance which have been successfully combated by research done at the Madras Veterinary College may be mentioned. A disease of cattle called the 'Snoring Disease', commonly met with in working bullocks, was causing great hardship to the agriculturists. A cure for this disease by way of injection of a drug called tartar emetic was found out followed by the discovery of the casual agent of this disease, namely, a worm called *Schistosoma nasalis*. The life history of this worm was soon worked out and this resulted in effectively checking the spread of infection of these worms from one animal to another.

Another disease of importance that was tackled at the Madras Veterinary College was Bovine Lymphangitis. This disease causes enlargement of the superificial lymph glands of the body resulting in great difficulty in the movement and efficiency of the animals for agricultural operation. Research into this condition showed that it was caused by specific bacterium and the disease has been checked by means of vaccination.

Goat and Poultry Diseases

Before the year 1939, a fatal disease among goats called Contagious Peuro-pneumonia was causing great havoc to the goat industry in India. Research done on the disease, during the year 1937–39 at the Madras Veterinary College, showed that it was caused by a specific agent and that it can be effectively controlled by vaccinating goats against this disease.

For a very long time, a disease called Ranikhet Disease was taking a heavy toll among poultry. Practically, no

large-scale commercial poultry farming was possible in India due to this disease. However, about the year 1944, a new vaccine was evolved at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, which was very effective in preventing this disease. This vaccine now used on a very large scale to protect birds against the Ranikhet Disease has conferred a great boon to poultry in India. The vaccine is manufactured at the Madras Veterinary College and the inoculation of birds is done free of cost at all places in this State.

Bovine mastitis is another important disease of cows resulting in the loss of milk and eventually the udder also. This disease has been causing much economic loss to the milk industry. But research has helped in the early diagnosis of the disease by laboratory methods, thus preventing much economic loss to the farmer.

Another aspect of Veterinary Research is concerned in effectively checking or even eradicating animal diseases that are communicable to human beings. This is in fact part of the larger problem of public health. The most important among these diseases are Rabies, Tuberculosis and Glanders. Veterinary Research and the vigilance of the Veterinary profession has been responsible for keeping in check or even completely eradicating these communicable diseases.

Protective Foods

There is yet another aspect of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Research which is closely linked up with public welfare and that is the food problem. It is not often realised that it is from animal sources that we derive all types of what we call 'protective foods', as meat, milk and eggs. Research has resulted in increased production of these foods. Average milk production of local breeds of cattle has been increased considerably by better feeding, management and selective breeding in Government Livestock Farms. Experiments have shown that it is possible to evolve improved strains of indigenous birds giving on an average more than twice the number of eggs given by a *desihen* in a year. This figure compare favourably with the production of birds of exotic origin. Research thus brings out the latent potentialities in our animals and thus contributes to solve the problem of increasing production of protective foodstuffs which are in such short supply in our country.

Through research in animal breeding, it has been possible to increase enormously the utility of valuable bulls which are very few in number in this country. This is accomplished by means of a process called artificial insemination. By this method, semen collected from a single bull could be utilised for inseminating a larger number of cows. This will mean that the improved qualities of the bull could be transmitted into offsprings of a larger number of cows than it would be possible by natural method. Usually from one collection of semen, it is possible to inseminate about 10–20 cows. This work was taken up in the Madras Veterinary College as far back as 1939 and at present there is a fairly well-equipped artificial insemination unit in this College for the benefit of owners of this City. Research done here and elsewhere has also shown that semen could be preserved and used for about eight days and this has further increased the potentialities of this method. Artificial insemination of cows is done free of cost at the Madras Veterinary College and at a few centres in the City. This service has also been extended to towns like Coimbatore, Guntur, Ootacamund and the various Key Village Centres in the State.

Thus from the foregoing, it will be clear that much research in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry has been done in India and the results so obtained have been applied for the benefit of the agriculturists. However, much remains to be done in the field of animal production and control of animal diseases. Better breeds of livestock and new and more effective type of vaccines against disease are required and all this will be possible by further continuous research. It is for this reason that much emphasis had been laid on Veterinary and Animal Husbandry problems in India in the five-year plan of the Indian Planning Commission. The Indian farmer is sure to derive lasting benefit from the fruits of research.

(By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras)

Services of U.N. Expert on Veterinary Biological Products Secured

The services of an expert with knowledge of use of modern equipment in the manufacture of biological products, have been secured for a period of one year under the Supplemental Agreement No. 4 entered into by the Government of India with the FAO of the United Nations. Mr. Godfrey G. Alton, who has been assigned by the FAO for this work, has arrived. The expert will advise and assist in the production of biological products for effective field work and train personnel in this field.

Under the terms of agreement, the FAO will provide certain necessary equipment not procurable locally but essential to the manufacture of the veterinary biologicals. Such items of equipment will be decided by the Organization and their cost shall not exceed the equivalent to U.S. $8,000. The expert has brought with him a spin freeze drying apparatus. In tropical countries, biological products in liquid forms rapidly degenerate, and with this new apparatus potency of the sera and virus can be better assured for a longer period by concentrating and drying them.

Veterinary Dispensary At Nidubrole

Veterinary dispensary buildings were constructed at Nidubrole, Guntur District, from the public contributions and handed over to the Animal Husbandry Department. The Panchayat Boards of Nidubrole and Ponnur have agreed to contribute Rs. 300 and 500, respectively, every year from their funds for the maintenance of the veterinary dispensary. The approximate value of the buildings will be Rs. 50,000. While accepting the land and building offered by the public, the Government have expressed their appreciation for the good work done by the following donors and other members concerned in the execution of the work connected with the Veterinary Hospital at Nidubrole: Srimathis P. Rajeswaramma, P. Raghavamma, K. Sitamma, K. Mallamma and Sriyuts K. Venkatasubbiah, P. Raghaviah, N. Nagiah, P. Sujangarayadu, K. Lakshminarayana, P. Subbiah, V. Bapayya, P. V. Punniah, G. C. Srihari Naidu and P. Panduranga Rao.

Livestock Statistics

Livestock statistics formed part of statistics relating to land and agriculture which were originally published in certain tables drawn up by the Statistical Committee of 1866 and added to the Appendices to the Annual Administration Reports. One of these tables (III-D-2) related to agricultural stock. The Government of Madras in G.O. No. 32, Revenue, dated 10th January 1855, modified these forms by way of implementing the proposals of the Statistical Conference held in Calcutta in December 1883. From this data the proposal for conducting Quinquennial Livestock Census was approved and the first was conducted in 1887–88. So far 14 censuses have been taken and the latest is the fourteenth in 1951, seven years after the previous one in 1944.

Although the fourteenth fell due in 1949, there was at the time a proposal to conduct a World Census of Agriculture and in considering that, the Conference of State Ministers resolved that the Quinquennial Census due in 1949 should be conducted with the Census of Agriculture in 1950–51. The latter, however, did not materialise. It was therefore decided to conduct the livestock census alone on the lines indicated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in its general scheme of World Census of Agriculture.

Agency for the conduct of Census.—The primary agency for the enumeration of this census consisted of the village officers who filled up the forms prescribed by the Government of India. Their work was checked by Revenue Inspectors, Grama Sevaks, Rural Welfare Officers, Deputy Panchayat Officers, Agricultural Demonstrators, Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and Municipal Commissioners. These data were tabulated at the taluk level by the Tahsildars and remitted to the office of the Economic Adviser where they were edited, processed and tabulated for the districts and the State as a whole.

Coverage of the Census.—The Quinquennial Census of 1951, has three major divisions : (1) Livestock, (2) Poultry and (3) Agricultural Machinery and Implements. The first division may further be divided into (*a*) bovine stock, (*b*) ovine stock and (*c*) other animals. The second division has two sections dealing with (*a*) fowl and (*b*) ducks. The third division has two sections, one for agricultural machinery and the other for ploughs and carts.

The present census shows that the total number of livestock in Madras State has risen from 40,249,760 in 1944 to 51,186,716 in 1951 or by 27·2 per cent. The total number of poultry has increased from 14,775,084 in 1944 to 18,709,382 in 1951 or by 26·6 per cent. The number of tractors has increased from 28 in 1944 to 624 in 1951 or 22·3 fold ; the number of sugarcane crushers has increased from 27,282 in 1944 to 64,377 in 1951 or 2·4 fold ; the number of oil engines from 3,690 in 1944 to 34,027 in 1951 or 8·2 fold ; the number of electric pumps from 4,307 in 1944 to 20,798 in 1951 or 3·8 fold. The ghanis or checkus were enumerated for the first time and the total number of ghanis was 231,430 in 1951.

The number of ploughs has increased from 3,931,657 in 1944 to 5,549,154 in 1951. The number of carts has also increased from 1,179,013 in 1944 to 1,596,820 in 1951.

Figures representing the changes in the number of each category of livestock, poultry, agricultural machinery and implements in the year 1951 since the 1944 census are tabulated below :—

Categories of Livestock, Poultry and Agricultural Implements in 1944 and 1951 with percentage change in each.

Categories of Livestock, etc.	*Population of Livestock as per the census in* 1944	1951	*Percentage variation.*
1 Cattle	16,354,914	19,416,675	+ 18·7
2 Buffaloes ..	6,289,325	7,866,352	+ 25·1
3 Sheep	10,569,189	15,161,169	+ 43·4
4 Goats	6,087,650	7,424,842	+ 21·9
5 Horses	50,016	66,890	+ 33·7
6 Donkeys ..	154,534	247,910	+ 60·4
7 Mules	259	689	+ 166·0
8 Camels	119	18	— 84·9
9 Pigs	743,754	1,002,171	+ 34·7
Total livestock ..	40,249,760	51,186,716	+ 27·2
II			
10 Poultry.. ..	14,775,084	18,709,382	+ 26·6
III (*i*) *Agricultural Machinery.*			
11 Sugarcane crushers worked by power.	1,776	3,386	+ 90·6
12 Worked by bullocks.	25,506	60,991	+ 139·0
13 Oil Engines ..	3,690	34,027	+ 923·0
14 Electric Pumps.	4,307	20,796	+ 483·0
15 Tractors ..	28	624	+2,22[illegible]·0
16 Ghanis	.. *	241,431	..
III (*ii*). *Agricultural implements.*			
17 Ploughs ..	3,931,052	5,549,154	+ 41·6
18 Carts	1,179,013	1,596,820	+ 35·4

* Census not taken.

Salient features of the Livestock position.—Of the total livestock in the State, the bovine stock consisting of cattle and buffaloes is 27,283,027 constituting 53·3 per cent ; the ovine including sheep and goats is 22,586,011 or 44·1 per cent and the number of other animals including horses, donkeys, mules, camels and pigs is 1,317,678 or 2·6 per cent (in the last category pigs alone number 1,002,171 and rest 315,506 only).

The bovine stock is composed of 19,416,675 cattle and 7,866,352 buffaloes and there are 2·5 cattle for every buffalo in the State. Of the cattle 41·1 per cent are bulls, 33·8 per cent cows, and 25·1 per cent young stock and of the buffaloes 20·6 per cent he-buffaloes, 46·0 per cent she-buffaloes and 33·4 per cent young stock.

The total number of working cattle in the rural areas of the State was 9,244,672. There are, therefore, approximately 29·0 working cattle for every 100 acres of cultivated area or roughly a pair of bullocks for 7 acres.

The total number of cows and she-buffaloes in milk was 2,050,316 and 1,674,673 respectively and there are 36 cows in milk and 29 she-buffaloes in milk for every thousand human population in Madras State.

The total number of breeding bulls was 72,906 and cows in milk, dry and not calved 5,439,123. For every breeding bull there are 75 cows in milk, dry and not calved. Among buffaloes, the number of breeding bulls was 56,101 and she-buffaloes 3,359,429 and then for every breeding buffalo there are 60 she-buffaloes in milk, dry and not calved in the State.

Control of Poultry Diseases

The scheme for the investigation and control of poultry diseases has been taken over by the State Government as one of the permanent activities of the Animal Husbandry Department.

This scheme was initiated nearly seven years ago by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Investigation into the various diseases like 'Ranikhet,' 'Fowl-pox,' etc. was made and effective control measures were found out. So far the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was financing the scheme on 50 per cent basis. Now the entire scheme will be executed by the State Government.

Interim Payments on Under-Tenure Estates

On behalf of the Government, the Director of Settlements, Madras, has deposited certain additional amounts towards interim payments for fasli 1359 with the Chairman, Estates Abolition Tribunals, Vizianagaram, Chittoor and Madurai, in respect of certain under-tenure estates notified in the first batch and taken over by Government on September 7, 1949; in respect of some of these estates, the amounts already deposited have been withdrawn.

Certain additional amounts have also been deposited towards advance compensation as well as interim payments for fasli 1360, with the Estates Abolition Tribunals, Vizianagaram and Chittoor, in respect of certain under-tenure estates notified in the second batch and taken over by Government on September 7, 1950.

The particulars of the names of estates, amounts deposited, reason for the deposits, etc., have been published at pages 543–545 of Part II of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated April 30, 1952.

On behalf of the Government, the Director of Settlements, Madras, has deposited interim payments for fasli 1360 with the three Tribunals, in respect of the zamin and under-tenure estates notified in the II batch and taken over on September 7, 1950. The names of the estates and the amounts deposited for each together with particulars of amounts recovered by Government towards the rents collected by the landholders from the ryots up to the date of notification are published at pages 672–680 of Part II of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated May 21, 1952.

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Interim Payments for Fasli 1360

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Recognition of Degree

The Government of India have decided to recognize the B.E. degrees of the Andhra University in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering as equivalent to corresponding degrees of recognized Universities, for purposes of recruitment to posts under the Central Government.

Grant for Relief Work

A grant of Rs. 1,00,000 was sanctioned to each of the District Boards of Anantapur and Cuddapah for road works undertaken for relief of unemployment among agricultural labourers affected by adverse seasonal conditions.

Development of Electricity

Electricity has come to stay as a powerful instrument for aiding social progress. It has been found to be a versatile magic tool of infinite potentiality. Not only has it become indispensable to run industries, big or small, but it has also become essential for the domestic needs of our homes. As an agency for invigorating rural life and improving rural economy, electricity stands unique.

The Government have not been slow in realizing this great power and a rational development of the natural power resources has been going on for a long time. The important water power sites where power could be developed economically are the Nilgiris, Palnis, etc., of the Western Ghats and the Agency tracts of the Eastern Ghats. The Nilgiris, of all other sources, has the advantage of height and heavy rainfall. Power development is comparitively economical and easy in this area and the Pykara system is a good example. Another scheme to tap the water sources in the Nilgiris, under investigation, is the one on the Kundah river near Coonoor. The waters in Visakhapatnam Agency area will be harnessed for power generation by the Machkund Project under construction. The storages built for large irrigation projects can also be utilized for power generation. The Mettur powerhouse is an example. When the irrigation projects like Tungabhadra, Krishna-Pennar are completed, we can tap large blocks and of power from these storages also.

Our Plan

At the cessation of hostilities in 1945, the installed capacity of the generating plants in the State was only about 150,000 K.W. The demand for power was great. Realizing full well that power formed the basis of industrialization, the Government drew up a five-year plan (1946—51) to produce an additional 180,000 K.W. of power. In other words, the intention was to double the power capacity of the State. The plan envisaged production from four new powerhouses at Machkund, Moyar, Nellore and Madurai and laying of new power lines and extensions to the five existing powerhouses at Pykara, Papanasam, Madras, Vijayavada and Visakhapatnam. Unfortunately, owing to the late delivery of steel, cement and power plant such progress could not be made and only 34,000 K.W. have been added to the State power capacity in all these years following Independence. The aim of the Government is to produce more and more of power and in the quickest possible time supply adequate power to meet the demand. The ultimate aim of the Government is the creation of a State Electric Power Grid, a network of transmission and distribution lines interlinking several powerhouses and conveying their output of electricity to distant towns and villages.

The Madras Grid

The Madras Grid, as it stands to-day, comprises the three hydro-electric power stations (Pykara, Mettur and Papanasam), five thermal steam-stations (Madras, Vijayavada, Madurai, Visakhapatnam and Nellore), besides a number of small diesel electric stations and over 11,000 miles of high-tension transmission lines and low-tension distribution lines. The southern part of the State is very well covered by a network of power lines inter-linking four hydro stations at Pykara, Moyar, Mettur and Papanasam. The thirteen southern districts from Chittoor to Tirunelveli and Chingleput to Madras get a fair portion of their requirements. In the central and northern regions of the State, the Grid is in patches and is yet to be connected.

In the central and northern regions of the State, the Grid is slowly taking shape. Already Rajahmundry and Kakinada are getting power from Vijayavada Station.

The Government are planning ways and means to meet the increasing widespread and insistent demand for power. The schemes already in execution and in progress under the State Five-Year Programme (1946—51) have been incorporated in the basic five-year plan of the Planning Commission for the period 1951–52. Most of the works, the total cost of which will come to Rs. 50 crores, will be completed by 1954. *Machkund Hydro-Electric Project* is the largest single item in the Electriccity programme of the State, capable of developing ultimately 120,000 K.W. It includes provision of the first transmission lines, for carrying power from remote Machkund down to Vijayavada and supplying power to the entire Circars. This scheme is a joint undertaking of the Madras and Orissa States and is expected to be completed in 1954, adding 51,000 K.W. of power capacity.

The Moyar Hydro Scheme is nearing completion. One unit, out of the three units of 12,000 K.W. each, was already put into operation in April 1952. The other two generators are expected to be put into operation in the current year.

Orders for the power plant to be installed at the *Tungabadra Power Station* have already been placed. When completed the power station will supply all the power requirements of Rayalaseema and also enable Government to stop the supplies of power they are receiving from Mysore. Many of the oil engine stations working in the area can then be closed down, as these stations will get linked to the Tungabhadra Grid

Extensions to the *Pykara Hydro-Electric Station* are being made under the five-year plan with a view to augment the supply to the Coimbatore Mill area. This will add an additional power capacity of 27,000 K.W. by 1953-54.

The *Madras Thermal Scheme* will also be expanded and a sum of Rs. 1·27 crores has been proposed to be spent this year. This extension will be completed by 1953 and will add 50,000 K.W. of power capacity. This is expected to be just sufficient to meet the immediate demands from industrial centres in the City. To meet future demands, further development of the station is being planned.

A power capacity of 10,000 K.W. is also proposed to be added to the *Madurai Thermal Station* under the five-year plan and the scheme is expected to be completed by 1953.

The programme also envisages the laying of 2,000 miles of new high tension lines and the required low tension lines under the rural electrification schemes for taking power to the ultimate consumer. When all these schemes come into fruition an addition of 185,000 K.W. capacity will have been made to the generating capacity of the State.

A supplementary programme of power development has also been proposed to the Planning Commission. The schemes included in the programme are those for the utilization of the waters of the Periyar lake in the Palni Hills, and the Kundah and Bhavani rivers in their upper reaches in the Nilgiris.

All these schemes when completed would form an interconnected grid covering the entire State. As the demand grew in leaps and bounds power capacities of various stations had therefore to be increased; it was found to be absolutely essential to rationalise generation and distribution of power in the State as a whole and leave their management to a well-knit single unit. Accordingly the Government have decided on taking over private as well as municipal undertakings. In pursuance of this decision as a first step, the Government have been taking over only concerns which had not been functioning properly or giving proper service. In this year's Budget a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided for acquisition of electrical concerns.

Much progress has been made in this State with regard to Rural Electrification. More than 2,200 villages get supply of electricity. The policy of the Government in this matter has been to supply electricity to about 200 villages on the average every year. Power in rural areas is largely used to pump water for irrigation. Every year 3,000 new pump sets are being connected. It is a matter of pride to note that up to end of the year 1951–52 there were 19,000 pumpsets used for agricultural purposes in rural areas as compared to only 5,900 in 1948. Electricity is also advantageously used for cottage industries and innumerable other purposes as protected water-supply wells, street lighting, domestic lighting and cooking, radio, village club-houses, theatre, etc. A sum of Rs. 161 lakhs has been provided for in this year's budget for rural electrification.

When all these schemes fructify we hope that there will be enough power available to meet all the demands in the State.

Extension of Power to Narasaraopet

The erection of the 30-mile Guntur to Narasaraopet 11/33KV. power line was completed and the line energised initially at 11 KV. on June 30, 1952, enabling Narasaraopet town to be supplied with uninterrupted power from Vijayavada steam station.

The town continued to be supplied so far from the local diesel generating station after the electrical undertaking was taken over by the Government on February 26, 1951. With the extension of Vijayavada power to Narasaraopet, more power will be available for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes in this town. The diesel station at this place has been shut down.

Electricity Extension Schemes Sanctioned

The Government have sanctioned the following schemes:

Mettur Electricity System.—(i) Extension of supply of electricity to 40 agricultural pumpsets and flour mill at Cheruvanki, Talayatham, Gudanagaram, Malmuthukur, Kuthukur, Cheddukkarai and Beemavaram villages in Gudiyattam Taluk, North Arcot District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,33,900; (ii) Extension of supply of electricity to 44 agricultural pumpsets and three industrial services at Mecheri and Randam villages in Wallajah Taluk, North Arcot District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,39,100.

Mettur Electricity System.—(1) Extension of supply of electricity to 48 agricultural pumpsets, three industrial loads (flour mills and decorticator) and ten house-service connections at Tadukupet, Saraswathivilasapuram, Veerakauverirajapuram and Kilpattu villages in Puttur Taluk, Chittoor District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,31,000. (2) Extension of supply of electricity to 123 agricultural pumpsets and two industrial loads (flour mills) at Kavanur, Kilapakkam, Kilkuppam and Amavarthangal villages in Arkonam Taluk, North Arcot District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,74,100.

Pykara Electricity System.—Extension of supply of power to 37 agricultural pumpsets in Thullakunnathur and Iyyampalam villages in Avanashi Firka, Avanashi Taluk, Coimbatore District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,10,400.

Mettur Electricity System.—Extension of supply of electricity to 112 agricultural pumpsets, three industrial loads and 35 house-service connections at Nagari, Mangadu, Kottur, Ananthapanaidukandigai and Chintalapattadai villages in Puttur Taluk, Chittoor District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,69,900.

Madras Electricity System.—Extension of supply of electricity to 62 agricultural services at Parivakkam, Panaveduthottam, Pidarithangal and Kollapancheri villages in Sriperumbudur Taluk, Chingleput District, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,70,100.

Supply of electricity was made to Achankulam village in Malli Firka, Srivilliputtur Taluk, Ramanathapuram District, from the middle of June 1952.

Surcharge on Electricity Bills

Recently there have been comments in the Press about the continuance of the War Costs Surcharge on electricity bills. The reasons for the levy of this surcharge are as follows:—

A surcharge, called the War Costs Surcharge, of ten per cent on the electricity bills was levied, to meet the increased cost of generation and distribution of electricity during the war. It must be remembered that this surcharge was levied without revising the rates of supply of energy, which were fixed several years back when costs were low. As the abnormal conditions created by the war continue, it has been necessary for the Electricity Department to continue the surcharge which, though called War Costs Surcharge, is in reality an increased costs surcharge.

There is little likelihood of the surcharge being discontinued. It is worth mentioning that compared to other commodities, the increase in price of electricity is perhaps the lowest.

Electricity—Review for April

A review of electricity work done in Madras State during April 1952 is given below :

Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme.—Lands yet remain to be handed over. All the bridges and culverts in Lamptaput headworks road were completed. In Soguru-Jalaput road, a length of 5 miles 5½ furlongs has been metalled and further work on bridges and culverts was progressing. In diversion dam, 19 per cent of work has been done and in flume channel, 64 per cent of work was completed. In tunnel pond dam excavation was progressing in left flank and 47 units of masonry was done in addition to 17 units of bucket and apron concreting.

In flume tunnel, 473 feet of lining was completed. In pipe tunnel, trimming was done in the area where gates are to be erected. Reinforcements were being transported to site and erected. Bottom 5 feet was completed and further work was progressing. Grading of valve house was nearing completion and that on further reaches and penstock slopes was in progress. Haulage track was laid up to anchor No. 2 and trial run was made with no load on truck.

Levelling of Power-house area was completed and foundation excavation for Power-house and tail race was in progress. Excavation for Coffer dam and Jalaput dam was continued. Construction of temporary buildings at Jalaput and permanent buildings at Onukedelli were also continued. There were interruptions to work in diversion dam due to rains and floods in the river throughout the month. Total labour force during the month was 4,307.

Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme.—All the civil works from headworks to Power-house have been almost completed. The first 12,000 K.W. generating set was commissioned and put into commercial service on 10th April 1952 bringing much needed relief. Erection work on II and III units was progressing.

Pykara III Stage Extensions.—For the Pykara dam, construction of masonry for main dam and wing walls was continued. Work on R.C.C. core wall for earthen dam was progressing. The new (4th) penstock line has been erected. Erection of differential surge tank was nearing completion. At Singara, work on foundation for the Power-house Extensions was completed and erection of steel structures remain to be taken up. Erection of outdoor switchgear for Moyar bay was progressing.

Madurai Thermal Scheme.—Component parts of the 10,000 K.W. set were being received and stored. The work on cooling water pond was progressing with earth work 70 per cent completed and 30 per cent of pad for flooring done. For the foundation for the 10,000 K.W. set, collection of materials was progressing and steel reinforcement for raft and mould planks for pedestals were being prepared.

South Kanara Scheme.—Alignment for 11½ miles in Hiriadha-Karkala 33 KV. line and 12 miles in Hiriadha-Coondapoor 33 KV. line was completed. Tree valuation along 56 miles out of 68 miles was done.

Tungabhadra Hydro-Electric Scheme.—Drilling operations for the investigation of soil conditions at the canal power-house site were being continued. Detailed survey for transmission lines was being continued. Seventy miles of detailed survey was done in the reach between dam power-house and Guntakal. Staking of tower locations and checking of profiles were in progress.

Madras Plant Extensions.—Building steel work was practically completed and erection coat of red lead paint has been completed. Fixing A.C. sheets has been comleted. On the completion of erection of boiler No. 4, fires were set in this boiler. Work on boilers 2 and 3 was progressing. Work on turbo-alternators was progressing. Work on coal conveyors 3 and wing tripper continued to progress. For the switchgear, the erection of control and relay boards in control room was commenced and was progressing.

Vijayavada-Visakhapatnam Power-house Extension—Vijayavada.—Works on Second raw water well were progressing.

Visakhapatnam.—Seven stanchions and trunes have been erected, on the south side extensions along with roof purlines.

Nellore Thermal Scheme.—Construction of staff quarters at Gudur was in progress. Sewage work at Nellore was progressing. Work on outdoor yard structure at Nellore and Gudur was progressing.

Operation Branch

Hydro areas.—The water conditions in hydro areas remained far from satisfactory and the inflows in the various reservoirs were very poor. The 25 per cent cut in consumption imposed from 15th February 1952 was continued during the month. The hydro systems continued to run in parallel with the Madras Electric System this month also. The number of units generated, peak load and services connected during the month in the three hydro-electric systems were as follows :—

Name of system.	*System peak load in K.W.*	*Generation in millions of units.*	*Services connected.* Agricultural.	Industrial.	Domestic.
Pykara	40,000	22·056	86	..	137
Mettur	36,700	8·942	34	..	228
Papanasam ..	22,000	7·759*	50	..	380

* This includes 1·935 million units generated at Madurai Thermal Station during the month.

The first unit at Moyar was commissioned on 10th April 1952 and is working since then, giving relief to the hydro areas. The station peak and units generated were 12,800 K.W. and 5·647 million units.

The Chief Engineer, Electricity, Bihar, and Secretary to Bihar Government visited Mettur Power-house on 29th April 1952.

Thermal Areas and Ceded Districts.—The Madras System was giving continuous relief to the hydro systems (to the extent of 2·052 million units) except during the peak load hours in the evening.

Supply conditions in the areas were satisfactory.

In Visakhapatnam division, High Tension supply was given to Balacheruvu Salt Factory. In Rajahmundry area, supply was given to supplemental water storage tank and Endrapalem. Electricity was extended to the distributions of Undi, Bhimavaram, Ganapavaram, Palacole, Narasapur, Kothapalli and Veeravasaram during the month. In Vijayawada division, supply was given to Kanhipadu village. A second point of supply was given to Masulipatnam Municipality. Extension of supply to Vaddeswaram was completed. Gannavaram railway station was electrified during the month.

The generation, peak load and the number of services connected up during the month in several areas were as follows :—

Name of system	*Peak load in K.W.*	*Units generated in millions*	*Services connected* — *Agriculture*	*Insdustrial*	*Domestic*
1 Madras ..	28,400	13·471	15	16	250
2 Vijayawada —					
Steam ..	8,209	3·739	3	1	19
Diesel ..	340	0·003			
3 Visakhapatnam—					
Steam ..	3,650	1·501	..	2	61
Diesel ..	960	0·108			
4 Kakinada ..	760	0·007	6	4	92
5 Rajahmundry.	598	0·007			
6 Narasaraopet ..	88	0·016	..	..	2
7 Srikakulam ..	104	0·017	..	..	2
8 Ongole	92	0·019	..	..	13
9 Narasannapeta.	15	0·003	..	..	..
10 Nellore ..	720	0·264	..	..	..
11 Proddatur ..	103	0·029	..	..	..
12 Kurnool ..	320	0·103	..	..	..
13 Anantapur ..	155	0·044	..	..	..
14 Cuddapah ..	225	0·079	..	..	..
15 Nandyal ..	115	0·021	..	..	..
16 Tadpatri ..	62	0·011	..	..	..
Power purchased from Mysore.					
17 Hindupur ..	252	0·062	..	..	..
18 Ceded Districts.	1,952	1·284	..	..	..

In the Madras Electricity System, 74 D.C. services with an approximate connected load of 94·3 K.W. were changed over to A.C. supply.

During the month, 30 extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 were sanctioned by the Chief Operation Engineers and Chief Engineer for Electricity at an estimated total cost of Rs. 10,05,990.

Scholarships to Eligible Communities

The Government have permitted the Director of Harijan Welfare to grant, with effect from the current year, non-recurring grants and scholarships to the students belonging to eligible communities, studying in Basic schools in Standards I to III and Standards IV to VIII, respectively. The rates and other relevant rules and regulations applicable for the grant of non-recurring grants and scholarships to students studying in the ordinary schools shall be applicable to those in Basic schools also.

Ex-Gratia Payment Ordered to Retrenched Staff

The Government have directed that ex-gratia payment should immediately be made to such of the temporary personnel (outsiders) who have been retrenched in the staff of the Civil Supplies Department and who have no lien, temporary or permanent, on any post in any department of Government, State or Central, and who have been thrown out of employment with effect from June 16, 1952, or later date, consequent on the abandonment of intensive procurement and statutory rationing in the State.

The scale of payment will be as follows: (*a*) Persons who have put in one year of service or less—One month's pay (excluding special pay and dearness and other allowances) which the discharged persons drew on the date of discharge; (*b*) Persons who have put in a service of more than one year but not more than two years—Two months' pay (excluding special pay and dearness and other allowances) which the discharged persons drew on the date of discharge; and (*c*) Persons with more than two years' service—Three months' pay (excluding special pay and dearness and other allowances) which the discharged persons drew on the date of discharge.

Ordinary Elections to Madras Corporation

The ordinary elections to the Corporation of Madras have been ordered to be held during August-September 1952. Consequent on the abolition of reserved seats in the State Legislative Assembly for labour, the four labour electorates relating to the Corporation of Madras have been revised and fresh directions have been issued to the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, for the preparation and publication of the electoral rolls for the labour electorates in time so as to complete the elections before 1st October 1952.

Elections to Municipal Councils

It has been decided to conduct ordinary elections to all the municipal councils except the newly constituted municipalities of Arni, Gudur, Bapatla and Salur, during the current year so that the new councillors may come into office on 1st November 1952. In the case of these excepted cases, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to take early action for the conduct of elections.

Sub-Committee for Panchayats Act

There has been a widespread feeling that some of the provisions of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, are unworkable. A Cabinet sub-committee has, therefore, been constituted to go into the question whether the Act requires any modifications to make it workable.

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5/4 AUG 1952

Juvenile Delinquents in India

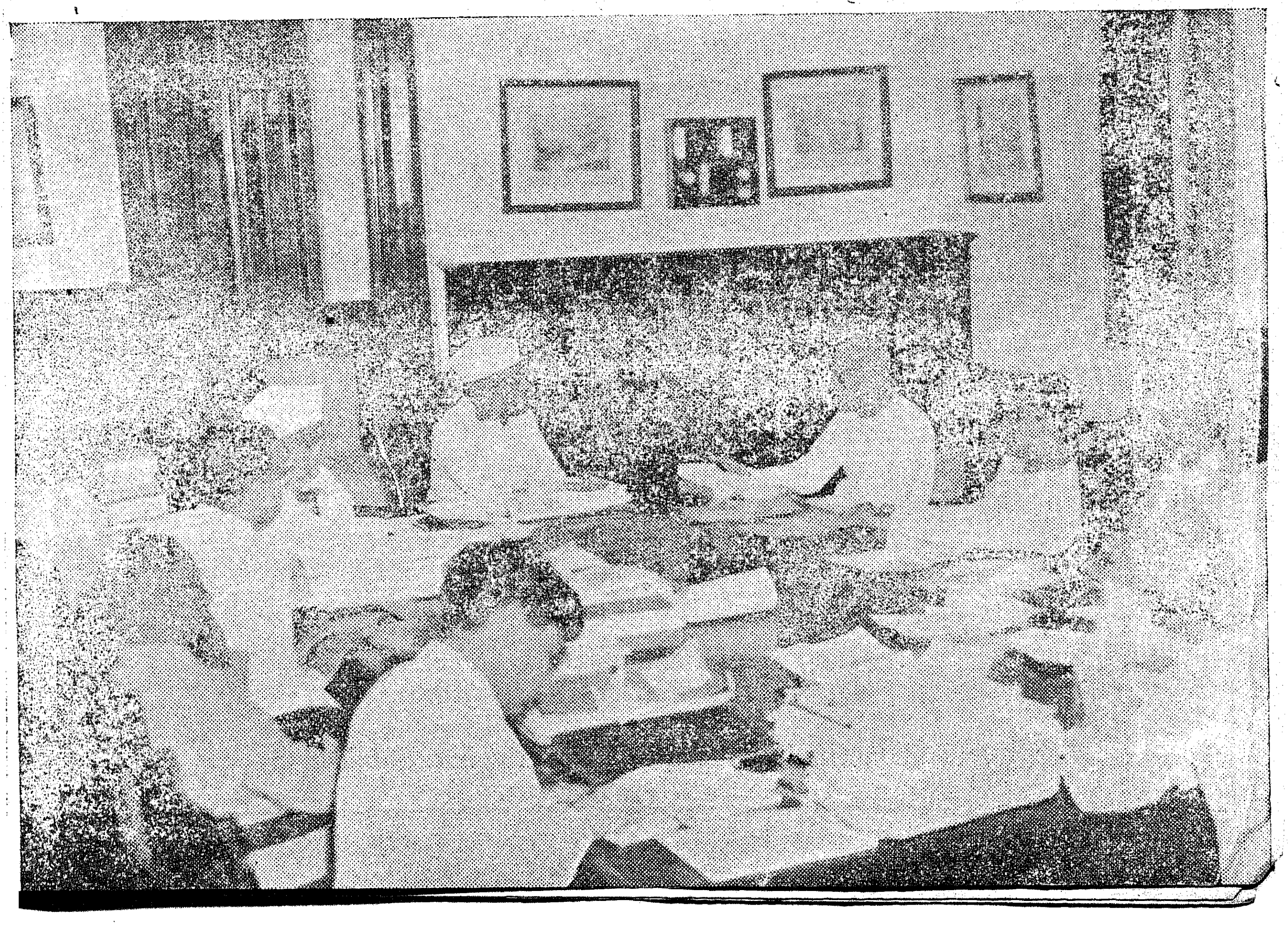
The first study of its kind, the publication " The Neglected and Delinquent Children and Juvenile Offenders in the States of Indian Union, 1949 " brought out by the Bureau of Education of the Ministry of Education, Government of Indi , gives a survey of the legislative and administrative measures in force in the various States of the Indian Union in 1949 for the protection of young children from delinquency and juvenile offences.

The legislative measures enacted n the various States all over India vary in their scope and range. An example of enactment with a limited scope is the Assam Students and Juvenile Smoking Act, 1923 which provides for the prevention of smoking by students and other young persons. Under this Act it is an offence to sell or give tobacco, cigarettes pipes or cigarette papers to any student (apparently under 18) or to any other young person (apparently under 16). Enactments with increasingly wider scope are the Bengal Children Act (Bengal Act II of 1922 as modified up to 1933) which provides for the custody, trial and punishment of youthful offenders and for the protection of ch ldren and young persons ; the Bengal Orphanages and Widows' Homes Act of 1944 which provides for the better contro and supervis on of orphanages, widow homes and marr age bureaux, and the Bombay Ch ldren Act of 1924 which deals with the custody trial and punishment of delinquent children and provides for the estab ishment and management of Reformatory Schoo s for them.

Certa n abour legislation also afford protection to chi dren. Thus the Children (P edging of Labour) Act II of 1933 penalises the pledging for the labour of a child below 15 years of age by his or her parents or guardians. The Employment of Children Act o 1938 prohibits employment of children under 15 years of age in any occupation connected with the transportation of passengers, goods or mails by railway and certain sections of the Indian Mines Act of 1923 prohibit the emp oyment of a child in a mine or allowing him to be present n any part of a mine which is underground.

The nature of the adm nistrative machinery set up in connection with these enactments also var es. For example, no special officers were appointed to enforce the Juvenile Smoking Act in Assam, but po ice officers n uniform, members of the Assam Legislature, members of

The Finance Commission held discussions recently with the Ministers and officials of the Madras Government at the Secretariat, Fort St. George. Sri K. C. Neogy, Chairman of the Commission, presided. Justice R. Kaushalendra Rao, Sri V. L. Mehta, Dr. B. K. Madan, Sri M. V. Rangachari, Member-Secretary, Dr. N. A Sarma, Assistant Secretary, and Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Sri C. Subrahmaniyam, Sri T. A. Varghes , Finance Secretary, Sri R. Rangachari, Additional Secretary, and others attended the conference.



Local Boards, teachers of recognised schools and colleges, lawyers, doctors, missionaries of recognised religious bodies, etc., were authorised to seize and destroy tobacco or tobacco articles from students and young persons. In Delhi, to look after the welfare of juvenile offenders a separate court was created in August 1948. A Lady Magistrate, a Chie Probation Officer, some Probation Officers and other court staff were appointed to enforce the provi ons of these Acts.

The publication gives a list of the institutions established for the re-education and rehabilitation of delinquent children. The institutions include orphanages, borstals, juvenile jails, women's rescue homes, certified schools, etc. Bombay has the maximum of such institutions, the number being 150.

The publication which has been compiled for the use of State Governments, social organizations and the general public, is available with the Manager of Publications, Delhi, at Rs. 2-8-0 per copy.

STUDY ABROAD
Volume IV
(UNESCO)

International Handbook of Fellowships, Scholarships and Educational Exchange

The fourth volume of *Study Abroad*, Unesco's yearly handbook of fellowships and scholarships given by Governments and private institutions as well as by the United Nations and its specialised agencies, is now available for sale.

The present volume contains 38,000 opportunities and has an increase of nearly 3,000 more possibilities for study in countries other than one's own than those listed in Volume III, published in 1951.

It is divided into three parts, namely :—

(1) A detailed survey of fellowship programmes conducted last year;

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In short the volume lists the international scholarship and exchange opportunities available during 1951–52 which have been reported by 60 different States and by a number of non-self-governing and trust territories. The information on annual and regular scholarships has been brought up to date and there are also reports on the programmes of several governments which have not previously been published in *Study Abroad.* There is an increase in the number of fellowships reported by the U.N. and its specialised agencies, mainly owing to the further development of the Technical Assistance Programme, and now reports from a number of non-governmental awarding agencies are also included.

As with Volume III of *Study Abroad,* the I.L.O. has again assisted Unesco by sending a report on the international exchange of trainees in Industry, Commerce and Agriculture and this year there is much additional information on these exchange opportunities for young workers.

In view of the very wide range of subjects for which scholarship or exchange opportunities are offered, the Handbook should be of interest and use to many persons and organizations working both in academic and non-academic fields.

A large number of enquiries from candidates for fellowships in research and other assistance are received. Such candidates would find this book extremely valuable in answering their questions, saving for them much time and unnecessary correspondence.

The book is priced at $ 2·00, 7*s.* 6*d.* and may be purchased from either of the following two sale agents :—

1. Oxford Book and Stationery Co.,
   Scindia House, New Delhi.
2. Vidya Bhavan Granthagar,
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CURTAIN CALL

(April 1952)

Biannual journal published by the Army Headquarters Dramatic Society, New Delhi.

Pages 58. *Price : Rupees two.*

Besides performing with conspicuous ability its traditional duties of protecting peace and maintaining defence posts, the Army in India has so positively identified itself with the life and aspirations of the Indian people—witness its Grow More Food activities and Famine Relief work—that it is not surprising that the Indian Army should play a vital role in the cultural life of the country.

Through *Curtain Call,* a biannual journal, the first number of which is to hand, the Army Headquarters Dramatic

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Society proposes, in the words of General K. M. Cariappa, C.-in-C., "to put over to the Army in particular, and the country, the need for the cultural development of our people, not only from the point of view of the necessity to revive the stage but also from the various other aspects of culture." The superb production of the first issue testifies to the fact that a very good beginning has been made towards achieving these very laudable aims. Printed on fine art paper, and containing a wealth of photographs of various theatrical performances staged by Army dramatic clubs, exquisite drawings and a choice selection of articles dealing with problems of the contemporary stage, *Curtain Call* is bound to be one of the prime movers in the creation of the National Theatre.

—P.V.S.

LAND AND SOCIETY IN MALABAR

By ADRIAN C. MAYER.

Published by the Oxford University Press.

Pages viii + 158. Price Rs. 7.

This short analytical study of the social structure in Malabar District has been issued under the auspices of the International Secretariat of the Institute of Pacific Relations, New York. The small compass of the book naturally precludes a detailed anthropological account, and the author makes it clear that the book is by no means the result of intensive investigations over a long period of time. He confines his study to an examination of the social structure with the attendant influence of economic action.

Withal, the book is a very ably written account of rural Malabar, and Mr. Mayer, while restricting his field to a short descriptive account of the region and the people, the social system, agricultural activities, land tenures and inheritances, and the inter-relation of Government policies nevertheless presents a precise picture of a particularly interesting area in Southern India. Salient points have been selected from a wealth of information in this rapid survey, which is at once concise and scholarly. The eight chapters of the book are excellent epitomes of the subject covered, and provide a useful introduction to the casual reader who seeks information for the first time about the people of this fascinating region.

While caste and kinship—with the attendant evils of untouchability and pollution—form in Malabar (as elsewhere) the main principles of social organization, the author perhaps does not recognise that in Malabar (as elsewhere) the caste system has weakened to a greater degree than he thinks. Mayer says: "Although the caste hierarchy has not disappeared, it is clear that its distinctions are lessening." Actually, the truth would go beyond this statement, and today the protagonists of the caste hierarchy are merely those who prefer a subdued social life, and untouchability is practised more on grounds of sanitation than religious orthodoxy. Again, the author lays great stress on the practice of magic, and wonders that the expenses on ritual spells are not included in the surveys on family budgets. This would be making much of stray rites of a traditional nature.

After a compact survey of Malabar agriculture, the author discusses the cumbrous handicaps of the Malabar land tenancy system. The new legislation brought by the Madras Government may force the *kanamdars* or intermediaries in the land system out of existence; while Mayer agrees this would be quite in order, he doubts whether the Act will aid the landless labourer as much as the cultivating tenant.

The two chapters "Changing Patterns" and "Government Policies" should particularly interest Government officials and legislators, for here the author has tried to give the people's reactions to the effects of mechanization, formal education, westernization, urbanization and other reformatory measures launched by Governmental decisions.

The footnotes and the bibliography indicate that the book is well documented, with facts and figures drawn from authentic sources. But one feels that the stray instances of the author's obervations from life—as on pages 27, 35, 38, 44, 50, 73, 101, 102, 103, 107, and so on—may well be omitted. They cannot all be taken as typically representative of the contemporary scene, and such personal observations should be included in an anthropological survey only when they have the unbiased virtue of reflecting the characteristics of a carefully selected cross-section.

—P.V.S.

Reproduction of Bharathi's Works

The Government have authorised the Director of Public Instruction to deal with the requests from the authors and publishers of text-books for the inclusion of poems or songs of Poet Bharathi in their text-books, adopting the rates of royalty fixed in the Order, dated February 12, 1951.

Applications from the authors and publishers of publications other than text-books, will be dealt with by the Director of Public Libraries.

Application from film-producing concerns, gramophone companies, etc., for the inclusion of songs of Poet Bharathi in the films or for their reproduction in gramophone, will be dealt with and orders issued on them by the Government.

The rates of royalty to be charged in all these cases will be as follows, as already announced :—

For the inclusion of poems or songs in text-books; 4 as. a line, subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 for each poem or extract; for the inclusion of songs in films or for the reproduction in gramophone Rs. 200 for the reproduction of one song in a cinema film; and 2½ per cent of the sale price of a gramophone record, which reproduces a song.

Books Received:

Sri Sankara's *Bhajagovindam* (with meaning) in Tamil (Annas four).

Sri Sankara's *Stotra Mala* in Tamil (As. 2-6).

Published by Sri Akkur K. S. Srinivasan,
Suguna Publishing House,
60, Easwaran Koil Street, Mambalam, Madras-17.

Planning Machinery Constituted

The Government have decided that in supersession of previous orders, the following machinery should be set up for both planning and development and for community projects :—

STATE LEVEL

I. *State Development Committee*—

This will consist of—

1. The Chief Minister—*Chairman.*
2. Minister for Finance,
3. Minister for Land Revenue,
4. Minister for Agriculture and
5. Minister for Public Works—*Members.*

The Director of Community Projects will be the Secretary to the Committee. A senior officer of the cadre of District Collector has been appointed as Director of Community Projects for the State and he will work directly under the Chief Secretary to Government. He will also be Ex-officio Secretary to Government in the Public Department.

The functions of the State Development Committee will be those which are assigned to the State Planning machinery constituted in G.O. Ms. No. 1561, Development, dated 6th April 1951.

II. *State Advisory Board*—

The Board will consist of—

1. Chief Secretary—*Chairman.*
2. Secretary, Development Department,
3. Secretary, Finance Department,
4. Secretary, Revenue Department,
5. Secretary, Public Works Department and
6. One member of the Board of Revenue—*Members.*
7. Director of Community Projects—*Secretary.*

This will take over the functions of the State Planning Committee.

DISTRICT LEVEL

III. *District Planning Boards*—

A District Planning Board will be constituted in each district except South Kanara, Malabar, Madurai, Coimbatore, East Godavari, Kurnool and Cuddapah, with the following :—

1. District Collector—*Chairman.*
2. President, District Board,
3. Chairmen of all Municipal Councils,
4. Executive Engineers for Irrigation, Highways and Electricity,
5. District Agricultural Officer,
6. District Veterinary Officer,
7. Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies,
8. Assistant Director of Industries,
9. Rural Welfare Officers—*Members.*
10. Revenue Divisional Officer at headquarters—*Secretary.*

The District Planning Board will take over the functions of the District Planning Committee also detailed in the Government Order first read above.

In the districts of South Kanara, Malabar, Madurai, Coimbatore, East Godavari, Kurnool and Cuddapah, the Project Executive Officers will work in close touch with the concerned Collectors. Project Advisory Committees will be set up in these districts. The Collectors will submit detailed proposals for the constitution of these committees in consultation with the Project Executive Officers. These committees will have the same functions as the District Planning Boards, to be set up in the other districts.

WASHERMEN'S CONFERENCE : Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Chief Minister, addressed the Tamil Nad Washermen's Conference, held recently at Tiruvanmiyur, Madras.

NEWS AND NOTES

Sanitation in Hotels

In October 1950, the Government appointed a committee consisting of the following members to go into the question of cleanliness and sanitation in hotels, canteens and other similar places of public resort:

Chairman.

(1) The Director of Public Health.

Secretary.

(2) The Sanitary Engineer to Government.

Members.

(3) The Deputy Director of Public Health.
(4) The Director of Industries and Commerce.
(5) The Director, King Institute, Guindy.
(6) The Government (Food) Analyst, Guindy.
(7) The Health Officer, Corporation of Madras.

Later, the Joint Director of Industries and Commerce was appointed as a member in the place of the Director of Industries and Commerce and the Executive Engineer (Public Health), North Madras Division, and the Nutrition Officer, Office of the Director of Public Health, were appointed as additional members and Secretary (in the place of the Sanitary Engineer who continued to be a member) and Joint Secretary, respectively, to the Committee.

The terms of reference to the Committee were—

(i) to consider the state of cleanliness and sanitation in hotels, mobile and other canteens and places of public resort generally; and

(ii) to make recommendations for—

(*a*) the removal of defects and deficiencies, and

(*b*) the revision of the existing by-laws and rules of the municipalities and local bodies framed under the various enactments applicable with a view to secure adequate standards of cleanliness, sanitation, health and quality generally, and particulary in the sale and consumption of edibles in those places.

The Committee has since come to be known as the Hotel Sanitation Committee; and its final report has been received by the Government. On a preliminary examination of the report, the Government consider that it should be published for eliciting public opinion before reaching conclusions on the recommendations of the Committee. The report is accordingly released for publication.

The Government are perturbed to find from the report that the standard of sanitation prevailing in hotels, restaurants, etc., leaves much to be desired. They would invite the particular attention of the proprietors of hotels and restaurants to the findings in the report that the arrangements made for washing of vessels, dishes, etc., are very primitive and that the water used for such purposes is bacteriologically equivalent to that of dilute sewage. They trust that pending orders on the report, the proprietors of hotels, restaurants, canteens, etc., and all local bodies would utilise their existing resources and powers to raise the standard of sanitation in the hotels, etc., to a much higher level than is prevailing now.

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